



APPLICATIONS FOR US UNEMPLOYMENT AID FALL TO 298,000

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HUGE RUSSIAN AID CONVOY ADVANCES TOWARD UKRAINE

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Friday, August 22, 2014

SHOCK & AWE



Pentagon: Islamic State Militants Will Regroup

An F/A-18C Hornet coming from Iraq lands on the flight deck of the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush in the Persian Gulf. Aircraft aboard the George H.W. Bush are flying missions over Iraq after U.S. President Barack Obama authorized airstrikes against Islamic State militants.

(AP Photo/Hasan Jamali)

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Airlines, Cruise Ships Monitoring Caribbean Weather System

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Airlines and cruise ship companies are monitoring the progress of a tropical disturbance approaching the Lesser Antilles at the eastern end of the Caribbean.

Forecasters at the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said the system of low pressure had a 50 percent chance of developing into a tropical depression or possibly a tropical storm within 48 hours.

Jennifer de la Cruz, a spokeswoman for Carnival Cruise Lines, said the Florida-based company has one ship that will have its itinerary slightly modified to steer clear of the system's predicted path. That ship,

the Carnival Splendor, will drop a port call in the Turks and Caicos Islands and stop instead at Florida's Port Canaveral. Major air carriers such as American Airlines said they were watching the weath-

er system but there were no itinerary changes by early Friday. Regional airline LIAT said it planned to cancel three flights on Friday, affecting travel to islands including St. Maarten, St. Kitts and St. Thomas. □

3 Hamas military chiefs dead in Gaza airstrikes

**KARIN LAUB
IAN DEITCH**
Associated Press

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israel stepped up its campaign against Gaza's ruling Hamas on Thursday, killing three of the group's senior military commanders in an airstrike that pul-

The killing of the commanders, who played a key role in expanding Hamas' military capabilities in recent years, was bound to lower morale in the secretive group, but might not necessarily diminish its ability to fire rockets at Israel. Thursday's strike in the

to Palestinian officials and the U.N., and entire neighborhoods of Gaza have been destroyed. Sixty-four Israeli soldiers, two Israeli civilians and a guest worker also have been killed. Meanwhile, a senior Hamas leader in exile admitted that Hamas was behind

in hopes of sparking a Palestinian uprising in the West Bank.

This week's resumption of Gaza fighting came after several failed rounds of indirect talks of Israel and Hamas in Cairo.

Egyptian mediators had proposed that in exchange for quiet on the Israel-Gaza border, Israel gradually ease a border blockade it had imposed on Gaza, alongside Egypt, after Hamas seized the territory in 2007. Hamas rejected the proposal, saying Israel didn't offer anything specific.

In an apparent attempt to revive diplomacy, Western-backed Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas held talks in Qatar on Thursday with his main Palestinian rival Khaled Mashaal, the top Hamas leader in exile.

Abbas lost control of Gaza in the Hamas takeover seven years ago, but several months ago signed a reconciliation deal with Hamas that was to give him a new foothold in the territory.

During the Cairo talks, Abbas confidants in a joint delegation with Hamas had urged the Islamic militants to accept the Egyptian offer, without success. Some in the Abbas camp had pointed fingers at Mashaal and his host and backer, Qatar. □



Palestinian mourners attend the noon prayers before the funeral of three senior commanders of the Hamas military wing, Mohammed Abu Shamaleh, Raed Attar and Mohammed Barhoum, who were killed in early morning Israeli strikes, in the Rafah refugee camp, Southern Gaza Strip, Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014.

(AP Photo/Khalil Hamra)

verized a four-story home, the second such attack targeting top leaders in two days.

The pinpoint pre-dawn attack on Hamas' inner sanctum was launched minutes after the men emerged from tunnel hideouts, a security official said — displaying the long reach of Israel's intelligence services.

southern Gaza town of Rafah, coupled with a Cabinet decision to call up 10,000 more reserve soldiers, signaled an escalation in the Israel-Hamas war after Egyptian ceasefire efforts collapsed this week.

Since July 8, fighting has claimed more than 2,000 Palestinian lives, most of them civilians, according

the kidnapping and killing of three Israeli teens in the West Bank — the group's first claim of responsibility for the June attack that triggered an Israeli crack-down and eventually led to the Gaza war.

Saleh Arouri told an international conference of Islamic scholars in Turkey on Wednesday that Hamas grabbed the teens

US 'concerned' by arrest of American in Israel

**MATTHEW LEE
YOUSUR ALHLOU**
WASHINGTON (AP)

— The U.S. government has raised concerns about Israel's arrest of a Palestinian teenager with American citizenship whose cousin was burned to death by Israeli extremists earlier this summer.

The State Department says it was never notified by Israel after Mohammed Abu Khdeir was arrested at his home in east Jerusalem on July 28. It also says Israel appears to be targeting members of the Abu Khdeir family for arrest.

"The U.S. Consulate Gener-

al in Jerusalem is providing consular assistance ... The consulate is also in contact with Mr. Khdeir's family and his lawyer," State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said Wednesday in Washington, expressing concern "about the fact that members of the Khdeir family appear to be singled out for arrest."

Relatives say that 19-year-old Abu Khdeir — born in Baltimore — was arrested at his home after participating in protests following the killing of his 16-year-old cousin on July 2. Another cousin, 15-year-old Tariq Abu Khdeir of Florida, was

badly beaten by police the same week. That beating, captured in an amateur video, sparked international outrage and helped lead to his release.

Relatives say Mohammed Abu Khdeir remains in custody.

Israeli police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld declined to comment.

An autopsy found evidence that 16-year-old Abu Khdeir was burned alive before police discovered him in a Jerusalem forest. The disturbing death, allegedly by Jewish extremists, came in response to the kidnapping and killing of three Israeli

teens by Hamas operatives on June 12, and sparked days of protests in east Jerusalem.

Issa Abu Khdeir, father of the 19-year-old American national, said by phone that he and another son were also detained for questioning by Israeli police on July 16. The father says he was released five days later, but that his elder son, who is not a U.S. citizen, remains in detention.

"Why were we arrested, because we participated in protests? Because we stand with our family? What's our crime?" the father said Thursday. □

Group: Justice elusive year after gas attack in Syria

RYAN LUCAS
Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — One year after the deadly chemical attack on rebel-held areas outside Damascus, the victims and their families have yet to see those behind the mass killings held responsible, a human rights group said Thursday.

In the early hours of Aug. 21, 2013, rockets carrying the nerve agent sarin slammed into the rebel-held suburbs of the Syrian capital of eastern Ghouta and Moadamiyeh.

Hundreds were killed in what the U.N. chief called the "worst use of weapons of mass destruction in the 21st century."

The attack is almost certainly the single deadliest event in Syria's civil war — a conflict that has killed more than 170,000 people since it began in March 2011. Following the chemical assault, U.N. inspectors conducted a swift investigation that determined rockets loaded with sarin had been fired from an area where the Syrian military has bases.

But the U.N. probe's limited mandate did not authorize the experts to identify who was responsible for the attack.

The Syrian opposition and its allies, including the United States, accused Damascus of carrying out the attack. President Bashar Assad's government denied responsibility, and blamed the rebels.

The Obama administration threatened to carry out punitive airstrikes against the Syrian government, touching off a flurry of diplomacy that eventually resulted in Assad accepting a U.S.-Russia brokered deal to relinquish his chemical arsenal.

Over the past 11 months, a joint mission by the U.N. and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has overseen the removal of all of Syria's declared chemical stockpile of 1,300 metric tons (1,430 tons) from the country. □

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Airline group projects Labor Day travel lift

DAVID KOENIG
 AP Airlines Writer

A trade group for the nation's big airlines predicts that air travel over the Labor Day weekend will rise 2 percent from the same holiday last year.

If correct, the forecast would be more good news for the airlines. Nine leading U.S. carriers earned \$3.8 billion in the first half of this year — up from \$1.6 billion a year ago — allowing them to pay down debt, reward shareholders and order new planes.

Those airlines are running profit margins of 5 percent, up from 2.1 percent in the first half of last year, according to the trade group Airlines for America. Revenue rose 6 percent, while their largest expense, fuel, fell 2.4 percent. The airlines are Alaska, Allegiant, American, Delta, Hawaiian, JetBlue, Southwest, Spirit and United.

Airlines are making record profits even as more and more flights are late or never take off. In the first half of 2014, U.S. airlines posted their worst on-time rate since 2008 and the highest cancellation rate since 2000, according to government figures.

The airline group's economist, John Heimlich, told reporters on a conference call that bad weather was the biggest factor in delays and cancellations. He said that despite difficult weather and high federal taxes, "the airlines have coped very well."

Pentagon: Islamic State militants will regroup

ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer
 WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S.

airstrikes have helped Iraqi and Kurdish forces regain their footing in Iraq, but the well-resourced Islamic State militants can be ex-

require airstrikes by the U.S., although Hagel appeared to leave open that possibility by telling reporters, "We're looking at all options."

Citing the recapture this week of the Mosul Dam

initiative," Hagel said, using an alternate acronym for the Islamic State group that is an outgrowth of al-Qaida.

The U.S. has restricted its military action to Iraq, but concerns have increased

end-of-days strategic vision and which will eventually have to be defeated.

"To your question, can they be defeated without addressing that part of their organization which resides in Syria? The answer is no. That will have to be addressed on both sides of what is essentially at this point a nonexistent border. "And that will come when we have a coalition in the region that takes on the task of defeating ISIS over time," Dempsey added, using another acronym for the group.

"ISIS will only truly be defeated when it's rejected by the 20 million disenfranchised Sunni that happen to reside between Damascus and Baghdad."

Neither Hagel nor Dempsey gave any indication of an imminent change in the U.S. military approach in Iraq, which President Barack Obama has said will include further airstrikes but not the introduction of American ground forces.

The Pentagon on Thursday said U.S. warplanes had launched six airstrikes overnight to help solidify Iraqi and Kurdish forces' efforts to retake and maintain control of the Mosul Dam. It said the latest strikes destroyed or damaged three Humvees, multiple roadside bombs and another insurgent vehicle.

The attacks brought to 90 the number of U.S. airstrikes in northern Iraq since Aug. 8. Fifty-seven of the 90 have been in support of Iraqi forces near the Mosul Dam.



Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel speaks at the Pentagon. Hagel said Thursday that US airstrikes have helped Iraqi and Kurdish forces regain their footing in Iraq, but he expects Islamic State militants will regroup and stage a new offensive.

(AP Photo/Pablo Monsivais)

pected to regroup and stage a new offensive, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said Thursday.

Speaking alongside Hagel at a Pentagon news conference, Army Gen. Martin Dempsey said that although the Islamic State group can be contained, it cannot be defeated without attacking it in Syria.

Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said this would not necessarily

that had been in Islamic State militants' hands, Hagel credited U.S. bombing as well as U.S. arms supplies to Iraqi and Kurdish forces and international humanitarian assistance to the thousands of Iraqis displaced across northern Iraq.

"Overall, these operations have stalled ISIL's momentum and enabled Iraqi and Kurdish forces to regain their footing and take the

as the Islamic militant group extends its reach from safe havens in Syria across the Iraqi border.

Dempsey, who served multiple tours in Iraq during the 2003-2011 war, was pointed in his comments about what it would take to ultimately defeat the Islamic State group.

"They can be contained, not in perpetuity," Dempsey said. "This is an organization that has an apocalyptic,

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Foley's death isn't changing views in Congress



Rep. Scott Rigell, R-Va., as he talks with media before entering a classified members-only briefing on Syria by senior administration officials on Capitol Hill, in Washington. Little of the impassioned debate that fractured lawmakers last year over possible military intervention in Syria is happening now as American war planes strike extremist targets in Iraq.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

BRADLEY KLAPPER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The beheading of an American journalist in Syria appears unlikely to change lawmakers' minds about military intervention against Islamic State extremists. It's

equally unclear whether the Obama administration will be asking them to back a new U.S. approach. President Barack Obama said the United States wouldn't scale back its military posture in Iraq in response to James Foley's kill-

ing. But he offered no specifics Wednesday about what new steps he might take to protect additional captives and other Americans, and ward off what he described as the al-Qaida offshoot's genocidal ambitions.

The initial response from members of Congress was mixed, reflecting the divide of the American people. While all decried Foley's death, hawks, particularly Republicans, continued to assail the Obama administration's limited airstrikes in Iraq and its refusal to target Islamic State bases in neighboring Syria. The president's supporters voiced support for the current, cautious intervention in Iraq. No tea partiers or dovish Democrats who have cautioned against military action publicly changed position.

"The president's rhetoric was excellent, but he didn't outline steps to stop the slaughter," Sen. John McCain, one of Obama's harshest foreign policy critics, said in a telephone interview. "The strategy should be to launch all-out air attacks in Iraq and Syria to defeat ISIL," he said, using an alternative acronym for the Sunni militants.

A U.S. official said Thursday the Islamic State militants had demanded \$132.5 million, or 100 million euros, in ransom for Foley's release. A second U.S. official said the demands were sent in emails to Foley's family in New Hampshire. Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the ransom demands by name.

Philip Balboni, CEO of the Boston-based GlobalPost, told reporters Wednesday the company had spent millions on efforts to bring Foley home, including hiring an international security firm. Foley was doing freelance reporting for GlobalPost.

When asked at a news conference about a ransom purportedly demanded by the kidnapers, Balboni

said the price tag involved both financial and political demands, and that it was "substantial" and always remained the same.

He declined to elaborate. Balboni did say that he understood there were "good reasons" why the U.S. government does not acquiesce to kidnappers' ransom demands, but said the policy should be revisited. He also said the family had received a "direct contact" from Foley passed through a recently released European hostage. But he declined to say what the message said. The militants first demanded the money late last year, Balboni said.

Attorney General Eric Holder said Thursday that the Justice Department has opened a criminal investigation into the matter.

"Those who would perpetrate such acts need to understand something," Holder said. "We have long memories and our reach is very wide and we will not forget what happened. People will be held accountable one way or another."

Interrupting his family vacation in Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, Obama denounced the Islamic State as a "cancer" threatening the entire Middle East.

And military planners weighed the possibility of sending a small number of additional U.S. troops to Baghdad. Still, Obama was vague about what more his administration would do, saying the U.S. will stand with others to "act against" the extremists.

"We will be vigilant and we will be relentless," he said. "When people harm Americans, anywhere, we do what's necessary to see that justice is done." □

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Governor takes National Guard out of Ferguson

A. SCHER ZAGIER
JIM SALTER
Associated Press
FERGUSON, Missouri (AP) — Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon on

of unrest have erupted since a white police officer fatally shot an unarmed black 18-year-old nearly two weeks ago.

nightly unrest have begun to subside. The quietest night was overnight Wednesday and Thursday, when police arrested only

we're making progress," Nixon told KMOX-AM, noting that a state of emergency remained in effect in Ferguson.

Demonstrations began after the Aug. 9 shooting of Michael Brown, and authorities have arrested at least 163 people in the protest area.

Data provided Thursday by St. Louis County showed that while the majority of those arrested are Missourians, just seven live in Ferguson, a St. Louis suburb. The vast majority, 128 people, were cited for failure to disperse.

Twenty-one face burglary-related charges.

Missouri State Highway Patrol Capt. Ron Johnson, in charge of securing Ferguson, said just six

people were arrested at protests Wednesday night, compared to 47 the previous night, providing hope among law enforcement leaders that tensions may be beginning to ease.

Meanwhile Thursday, St. Louis County prosecutor Bob McCulloch reiterated he has no intentions of removing himself from the case, and he urged Nixon to once and for all decide if he will act on calls for McCulloch's ouster.

Some question McCulloch's ability to be unbiased since his father, mother and other relatives worked for St. Louis police. His father was killed while responding to a call involving a black suspect.

Nixon said this week he is not asking McCulloch to recuse himself. □



Teachers Yvette Rhodes, Celeste Carroll and Judith Blackwell rally students for the planned start of school at Griffith Elementary School next week in Ferguson, Mo., Aug. 21, 2014. As tensions on the streets in Ferguson seemed to ease on Thursday, Gov. Jay Nixon ordered the Missouri National Guard to begin withdrawing from the city.

(Richard Perry/The New York Times)

Thursday ordered the state National Guard to begin withdrawing from Ferguson, where nightly scenes

Since the guard's arrival Monday, protests in the small section of town that had been the center of

a handful of people in the protest zone.

"The last two nights have been really good. I feel

New York:

Family of chokehold victim talks to feds

NEW YORK (AP) — The family of an unarmed black man who died after being placed in a chokehold by a white police officer met with a U.S. prosecutor on Thursday to again demand a federal probe.

The wife and mother of Eric Garner, who died last month, emerged from the 25-minute closed-door meeting with U.S. Attorney Loretta Lynch in Brooklyn. The Rev. Al Sharpton, who attended the meeting, said Lynch assured the family that her office was monitoring a pending state investigation.

Sharpton also said he expects at least 3,000 people to turn out Saturday for a march on Staten Island — by far the largest demonstration since Garner's death there on July 17. He

said organizers are working with police officials to keep the rally peaceful.

"The outrage has not subsided," Sharpton said. "... This is not going away."

Garner's widow, Esaw Garner, added: "We need a lot of marchers to march and get justice for my husband." The plans for a march come amid nightly scenes of unrest in Ferguson, Missouri, which erupted after a white police officer fatally shot an unarmed black 18-year-old nearly two weeks ago.

Garner's arrest on suspicion of selling loose, untaxed cigarettes was captured on an amateur video widely watched on the Internet. Garner, who had asthma, can be heard on the video shouting, "I can't breathe!" The 43-year-old father of six

died a short time later.

The medical examiner ruled his death a homicide caused by a chokehold, which is banned under police policy.

Democratic Mayor Bill de Blasio postponed a family vacation after Garner's death and spoke with black community leaders. He called the death a "terrible tragedy" and the video "very troubling." His police commissioner, William Bratton, has promised to retrain officers on the use of force.

The Staten Island chief prosecutor has said he will present evidence to a grand jury to determine whether any officers will face criminal charges.

A spokeswoman for Lynch declined to comment on Thursday. □

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Applications for US unemployment aid fall to 298K: Labor Department



People wait in line to meet with recruiters during a job fair in Philadelphia. The Labor Department reported on the number of people who applied for unemployment benefits last week on Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014. (AP Photo/Matt Rourke)

PAUL WISEMAN
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fewer people applied for U.S. unemployment benefits last week, another sign the job market is improving. The Labor Department said Thursday that weekly claims for jobless aid fell 14,000 last week to a seasonally adjusted 298,000. The prior week's figures were revised up slightly to 311,000. The less-volatile four-week

average rose 4,750 to 300,750. It remains close to levels that predate the Great Recession of 2007-2009. Applications are a proxy for layoffs. Employers aren't just keeping workers. They're hiring at a pace last seen during the tech boom. They added 209,000 jobs in July, the sixth straight month that job gains exceeded 200,000. The economy has generated

244,000 new jobs a month since February.

The recent hiring has encouraged more people to look for work, causing July's unemployment rate to rise to 6.2 percent from 6.1 percent in June. The government counts only people searching for jobs as unemployed. Hiring has yet to boost wages by much. Wage growth has slightly outpaced inflation since the recession ended more than five years ago. But more jobs mean more people getting paychecks, which could drive consumer spending and economic growth. The economy has shown other signs of improvement. The Commerce Department said Tuesday that U.S. home construction rose to an eight-month high in July, regaining momentum after two months of declines.

And some Federal Reserve think the economy is healing fast enough that Fed should act sooner than previously thought to reduce the extraordinary support it's been providing the economy through super-low interest rates. Minutes of the Fed's discussion at its July 29-30 meeting released Wednesday showed that some officials thought the Fed would need "to call for a relatively prompt move" to reduce the stimulus it has supplied since the financial crisis erupted in 2008. Otherwise, these officials felt the Fed risked overshooting its targets for unemployment and inflation. □

Part-time pay penalty hitting women harder

CLAIRE CAIN MILLER
© 2014 New York Times

Women get paid less than men in almost all jobs, but when women in low-wage jobs need to take time off work to care for children, they are at an even greater disadvantage.

If all employees got paid the same hourly amount (assuming they're equally productive on the job), it would go a long way toward closing the gender pay gap, according to Claudia Goldin, a Harvard economist who has analyzed income data across occupations, including a new set of unpublished data on hourly workers that she prepared for the White House Summit on Working Families in June.

Instead, she has found, people in professions like law and finance get paid disproportionately more when they work extra-long hours. At the other end of the spectrum, people in low-wage jobs do not benefit much from working more, but get paid disproportionately less per hour when they work fewer than 40 hours a week. The penalty is similar for men and women, but ends up hurting women more, because they are far more likely to take breaks during their careers or need shorter or predictable hours to handle child care.

Working fewer hours in low-paying jobs, Goldin said, "can get even nastier, because of the problem that flexibility here is not just the number of hours but whether you even know which hours you're going to be working."

While the challenges are different at high-income and low-income jobs, the bottom line is the same: Employees, particularly parents, need some measure of predictability and control over the hours they work; the workplace could be much more equal if they weren't penalized for not working a straight 40-hour workweek. Working-class women are much more likely than high-wage ones to leave work altogether when their children are infants and toddlers, Goldin said. That is in part because the United States does not mandate paid maternity leave or subsidized child care, so many women cannot afford to keep a job while their children are young.

Once women return to work, they get paid less than men still on the job because they have lost skills during their time off and because they tend to work less than full time. As a result, they are more likely than men to work in hourly jobs instead of higher-paying salary and supervisory ones, and get paid less even for the hours they work.

The problems affect not just parents but also students, people with more than one job and those with other caretaking responsibilities, as for elderly parents. With the rise in part-time workers who want to work full time and scheduling software that forces workers to be on call all the time, getting a reasonable schedule is even harder.

Using federal data that includes hourly earnings, Goldin analyzed eight broad occupation categories that pay near minimum wage, including food preparation, clerical work and service jobs like health aide or housekeeper. Women in the operators occupation, like sewing machine operators or bus drivers, are worst off, earning about 83 cents for every dollar men earn after controlling for hours worked, while female office assistants earn about 96 cents on the dollar, according to her data.

While the majority of people in these jobs work 40 hours a week, 32 percent of women and 10.5 percent of men work fewer than 40 hours. That is where the additional pay disparities come in. □



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US Financial Front:

American housing recovery appears back on track

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A fourth straight monthly increase in sales of existing homes provided the latest evidence Thursday that the U.S. housing market is rebounding from a weak start to the year.

Housing has been a drag

percent in July to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.1 million homes, the government said this week. Applications for building permits, a gauge of future activity, also strengthened last month.

And a survey of homebuilders released Monday showed that they were

lead more people to sell.

"This is exactly the sort of pattern we want to see,"

Karol said.

The number of homes for sale rose 3.5 percent in

July from June to 2.37 million, the most in nearly two years. □



George Limperis, a realtor with Paragon Real Estate Group, walks through the kitchen of a property in the Noe Valley neighborhood in San Francisco. On Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014, the National Association of Realtors reported on existing-home sales in July 2014.

(AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

on an otherwise strengthening economy, in part because a harsh winter delayed many sales. But Americans are stepping up purchases as more homes have been put up for sale. And low mortgage rates and moderating price gains have made homes more affordable.

"The momentum is in the right direction," said Andrew Labelle, an economist at TD Bank who noted that the past four months have marked the fastest four-month sales gain since 2011. "Sustained jobs gains, as well as the fall in mortgage rates since the beginning of the year, appear to have unleashed at least some pent-up demand."

Sales of existing homes rose 2.4 percent in July to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.15 million, the National Association of Realtors said Thursday. That was the highest annual rate since September of last year.

The increase follows other encouraging signs that the housing market is improving. The pace of home construction starts surged 15.7

more confident about future sales.

The encouraging readings contrast with reports earlier this year, when weak sales and limited building led economists to characterize housing as a faltering piece of the economic recovery. Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen and Vice Chairman Stanley Fischer had pointed to housing as an economic weak spot.

Economists noted that housing still hasn't fully recovered from its slowdown earlier this year. The annual sales pace remains 4.3 percent below last July's rate. And construction has merely returned to its pace in October; it has yet to exceed it. Yet economists say they're encouraged by signs that the latest sales gains are sustainable.

Stephanie Karol, an economist at IHS Global Insight, said a "virtuous cycle" is emerging: More homeowners are listing their properties for sale. A greater supply of homes then encourages more potential buyers to take the plunge. And that, in turn, helps sustain modest price gains, which



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American Living:

A Brooklyn Map with Battle Positions Instead of Trader Joe's



A plaque on the building that houses a Trader Joe's designates it as the location of Red Lion Tavern, in New York. From the tavern in 1776, Gen. George Washington watched the defeat of his troops in the Battle of Brooklyn.

(Ozier Muhammad/The New York Times)

DAVID W. DUNLAP

© 2014 New York Times

NEW YORK - "Good God!"

General Washington cried in despair as he watched the carnage being inflicted on his ragtag troops during the Battle of Brooklyn. "What brave fellows I must this day lose!"

And not just his fellows, though they died by the hundreds on Aug. 27, 1776, but the city of New York across the East River. And not just the city, though it was clear the Americans could not defend it from British occupation, but perhaps the war itself.

"If they had captured Washington, that would have been the death of the Revolution," said Julie Golia, director of public history at the Brooklyn Historical Society.

They did not. He escaped to fight another day and, 13 years later, was inaugurated in New York as the first president of the United States, little imagining that the spot from which he watched that awful rout would one day be the site of a Trader Joe's.

Of course, it is not much easier for us to imagine the Brooklyn in which the battle was waged, though

a handsome bas-relief plaque depicting Washington can be found on the Trader Joe's, at Court Street and Atlantic Avenue. (It was once the South Brooklyn Savings Institution, which commissioned the plaque in 1926.)

It seems so very distant - until you have the chance to examine the richly detailed map, annotated with a series of numbers, that Lt. Gen. Hugh Percy, the second duke of Northumber-

land, carried with him in the campaign to crush the American rebellion.

"Percy's map is a unique artifact of that battle, bearing markings in blood-red ink showing the American positions that the British intended to overrun," Barnett Schecter, author of "The Battle for New York: The City at the Heart of the American Revolution," said in a statement.

The map was bought last year for \$47,500 from the

William Reese Co. of New Haven by the Brooklyn Historical Society and the Green-Wood Historic Fund, a nonprofit offshoot of the Green-Wood Cemetery. Within the 478-acre cemetery rises Battle Hill, the site of an important skirmish during the Battle of Brooklyn.

On Sunday, at Green-Wood's annual commemoration of the Battle of Brooklyn, cemetery and society officials will show off the map, which is the first joint purchase the institutions have made since they entered into a formal collaboration in 2013.

With a companion piece, the map will be exhibited at the society - "Unlocking Two Revolutionary War Era Maps" - from Aug. 27 through February.

The purchase underscores a broader move by Green-Wood to position itself as a historical institution. "We are looking at the day when we're not an active cemetery," said Richard J. Moylan, the president of Green-Wood. He has been working for years to build a constituency among New Yorkers who love history. Deborah Schwartz, the president of the historical society, said of the collaboration: "There's a tremendous amount of synergy between their permanent

residents and the history we contain."

What will happen to Percy's map after February is not clear. But Moylan sounded optimistic. "We haven't started fighting over it yet," he said.

Actually, if the institutions were to divide the map - they have no such plans, of course - it would not be the first such surgery performed on the document.

Though Percy's map is almost three feet long by two feet high, it is just the bottom half of the original, known as the Ratzer Map, after Bernard Ratzer, the surveyor. Copies of the Ratzer Map were published in London beginning in 1770. Percy's copy was printed in January 1776.

The complete two-sheet map extends as far north as Turtle Bay in Manhattan, roughly where the United Nations stands. Percy's copy runs southward from Wallabout Bay in Brooklyn. He or his aides folded it four times over.

The map shows a Brooklyn whose contours are foreign: forests and clearings, rivulets and bays, steep bluffs and narrow passes. Battle Hill at Green-Wood, which commands a view of the Statue of Liberty, is one of the few places in the borough where you can picture yourself looking out over a vast panorama of war.

But the Brooklyn of 1776 is not entirely strange: There are the Red Hook peninsula and the hamlet of Bedford, and roads to Flatbush, Jamaica and New Town.

Golia of the historical society and Schecter, who wrote the explanatory text for the exhibition, can only infer the meaning of the handwritten numerals. Whether the key was on the upper part of the map (wherever that may be), or on a separate sheet of paper or in Percy's head, Golia said, it has been lost.

Fortunately, however, the historians have been able to figure out what would have been close to Percy's No. 19: Trader Joe's. □



A statue of Minerva on Battle Hill, part of Green-Wood Cemetery, in New York. The area was a site of the 1776 Battle of Brooklyn, in which Gen. George Washington was routed by the British.

(Ozier Muhammad/The New York Times)



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India army troops patrol Assam state as violence flares

WASBIR HUSSAIN
Associated Press

GAUHATI, India (AP) — Army troops enforced a curfew in border districts of India's remote northeastern Assam state Thursday after 12 people were killed and 10,000 were displaced in a flare-up of interstate violence.

Shops and businesses were closed in Golaghat town, where three people were killed after police opened fire to quell protests over attacks by tribespeople from neighboring Nagaland state, Assam's Home Secretary G. D. Tripathy said.

Tripathy said the Naga tribespeople had killed nine Assamese villagers last week in a flare-up of a long-running dispute over poorly defined state borders.

More than 10,000 people in Assam have fled their homes and are living in relief camps, he said.

Over the weekend, several groups in Assam blocked roads to prevent trucks carrying essential goods from entering Nagaland. As the blockade continued for four days, authorities in Assam ordered police and paramilitary units to disperse the protesters and clear the roads.

The action triggered widespread protests with people coming out in large numbers with sticks and stones, Tripathy said. Police opened fire several times to disperse the mob on Tuesday and Wednesday, killing three protesters and injuring at least 14 others.

The deaths sparked public outrage, prompting authorities to call out the army and impose a curfew in Golaghat and nearby areas. □

Russian aid convoy advances toward Ukraine

N. VASILYEVA
Associated Press

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Fierce fighting raged in eastern Ukraine on Thursday in what appeared to be a last-gasp attempt by government troops to snatch back territory from pro-Russian separatists before the arrival of a Russian aid convoy overseen by the Red Cross.

Trucks loaded with water, generators and sleeping bags for desperate civilians in the besieged city of Luhansk began moving through Ukrainian customs after being held up at the border for a week, in part because of safety concerns and Ukrainian fears that the convoy's arrival could halt the military's advance.

The trucks in the 200-vehicle convoy were expected to cross into Ukraine on Friday morning on their way to Luhansk, a city with a war-reduced population of a quarter-million people, 20 kilometers (12 miles) from the Russian border.

At Russia's urging, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called for a cease-fire during the humanitarian mission.

The Red Cross has said it needs assurances of safe passage from all sides to bring in the supplies and set up distribution points, so even without a formal cease-fire, Ukrainian government forces could be severely constrained in their movements once the trucks begin arriving.

Ukrainian troops have made significant advances into rebel-held territory this week in a conflict that has claimed more than 2,000 lives and forced over 340,000 people to flee their homes. Ukraine celebrates Independence Day on Sunday, and there are

widespread suspicions the government is anxious for a breakthrough by then. Looking for a diplomatic solution to the crisis, Ukraini-

acted as a mediator, and will sit down with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Minsk, Belarus, early next week.



About 60 trucks forming part of a Russian aid convoy are parked in a field about 7 kilometers (4 miles) from a border control point with Ukraine in the Russian town of Donetsk, Rostov-on-Don region, Russia, Thursday evening, Aug. 21, 2014. (AP Photo/Pavel Golovkin)

an President Petro Poroshenko will meet on Saturday with German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who has

"We are going to Minsk to talk about peace," Poroshenko said in a statement. "The whole world is tired of

war."

Poroshenko stopped short of saying whether he still insists on the rebels' unconditional surrender.

Ukraine has accused Russia of arming and supporting the separatists since the fighting began in mid-April, a charge Russia denies.

Meanwhile, five troops were killed and two civilians died over a 24-hour period in rebel-held areas, authorities said. That followed over 50 deaths on Wednesday.

Troops fought separatists in and around Ilovaysk near the rebel-held city of Donetsk, and at least two people were killed and an unspecified number wounded in an artillery strike on a Donetsk suburb, authorities said. □

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Venezuela proposes fingerprinting grocery shoppers

HANNAH DREIER
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— Venezuelans could soon have to scan their fingerprints to buy bread.

President Nicolas Maduro says a mandatory fingerprinting system is being implemented at grocery stores to combat food shortages by keeping people from buying too much of a single item. He calls it an "anti-fraud system" like the fingerprint scan the country uses for voting. In announcing the plan this week, Maduro did not say when the system would take effect, but other administration officials suggested it could be in place by December or January.

The move was met with skepticism. Critics said the new system is tantamount to rationing and constitutes

a breach of privacy. Others simply wondered if anything short of a systemic overhaul of the economy could help the socialist South American country's chronically bare shelves.

Venezuela has been grappling with shortages of basic goods like cooking oil and flour for more than a year. In the spring, the administration tried out a similar system in government-run supermarkets on a voluntary basis. Rigid currency controls and a shortage of U.S. dollars have made it increasingly difficult for Venezuelans to find imported products. Price controls don't help either, with producers complaining that some goods are priced too low to make a profit and justify production. The administration blames the shortages both



A woman walks downtown after buying bread in Caracas, Venezuela. Venezuelans may soon have to scan their fingers to buy bread at the supermarket. President Nicolas Maduro announced this week a new, mandatory grocery fingerprinting system to combat food shortages.

(AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

on companies speculating with an eye toward future profits and on black market vendors who buy groceries

at subsidized prices and illegally resell them for several times the amount.

In his announcement, Mad-

uro floated the possibility of easing some of the country's price controls, though he did not provide specifics. □



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Pakistan protest leader backs out of talks

MUNIR AHMED
Associated Press

ISLAMABAD (AP)

— Pakistani opposition leader Imran Khan suspended talks with the government Thursday after it appointed a new police chief in the capital ahead of a possible crackdown on thousands of anti-government protesters who have besieged parliament.

Khan, a famed cricketer-turned-politician, and fiery cleric Tahir-ul-Qadri have led massive protests from the eastern city of Lahore to the gates of parliament in Islamabad to demand the resignation of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, accusing him of rigging the vote that brought him to power last year.

The protests have raised fears of unrest in the nuclear-armed U.S. ally with a history of political turmoil, and after a request from the country's powerful military the government con-

vened talks with Khan and Qadri's representatives early Thursday.

Shah Mahmood Qureshi, a senior leader of Khan's party, told reporters that the opposition presented six demands, including Sharif's resignation.

The other demands include electoral reforms, setting up a caretaker government, removing top election officials and accountability for anyone found to have rigged last year's elections, which marked the first democratic transfer of power in Pakistan after a long history of coups and dictatorships.

It is unlikely Sharif would give ground on those demands, which the government considers illegal.

Later on Thursday, Khan told his supporters that the government had removed the Islamabad police chief for not using force against him, and warned that the new police chief, Khalid

Khattak, would follow orders to disperse the protests, which have thus far been peaceful.

"I have suspended the talks with the government," Khan said. He warned that his supporters would storm the prime minister's office if authorities launched any crackdown. It was not immediately clear if Qadri was also pulling out of the talks.

The government denied it had any plans to confront the protesters.

"We want to carry forward the talks to solve this issue," Information Minister Pervaiz Rashid said.

Another Cabinet minister, Ahsan Iqbal, said government negotiators held initial talks with Khan's Tehrik-e-Insaf party -- the legislature's third largest -- before dawn Thursday. "We again went to an agreed place today for more talks, but the team of Imran Khan did not turn up," he said. □



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Turkey's Davutoglu named new premier



Turkey's president-elect Recep Tayyip Erdogan, right, greets Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu after he announced Davutoglu as his ruling Justice and Development Party's new leader, in Ankara, Turkey, Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014. (AP Photo/Burhan Ozbilici)

SUZAN FRASER
Associated Press
ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Recep Tayyip Erdogan named Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu as his successor as prime minister on Thursday, with expectations high that the man

who has dominated Turkish politics for more than a decade will stay in charge once he is president. Erdogan has indicated that he plans to maintain tight control of the government and wants to transform the largely ceremoni-

al presidency. He has said he intends to employ its seldom-used powers, such as summoning and presiding over Cabinet meetings. As Turkey's first popularly-elected president, Erdogan takes office Aug. 28. Erdogan announced af-

ter a meeting of his ruling Justice and Development Party that party leaders had chosen Davutoglu, 55, to replace him as its new chairman and prime minister. Davutoglu, who has steered Turkish foreign policy both as foreign minister and as Erdogan's adviser since 2003, is expected to be confirmed as party chairman at the party's extraordinary congress next week.

"If he's confirmed as chairman ... Ahmet Davutoglu will be the candidate for prime minister for the Republic of Turkey's 62nd government," Erdogan told members of his party, who then stood up and cheered.

Davutoglu, a former professor of international re-

lations, is considered a strong Erdogan loyalist and was long reported to be Erdogan's top choice as his successor. Analysts say Erdogan wants to install a friendly prime minister so that he can still largely control the government from behind the scenes.

In an early sign that he would remain loyal to Erdogan, Davutoglu said that if his appointment as prime minister is confirmed, he would stand "like a rock" against those standing in Turkey's way. His comment came minutes after Erdogan said he hoped that as premier, Davutoglu would press ahead with a crackdown on followers of a moderate Islamic movement led by a U.S.-based cleric. □

Russia checks McDonald's after closing 3

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's food safety agency said Thursday that it was checking McDonald's restaurants around the country, a day after several branches of the chain were shuttered in Moscow.

The pressure on the American chain, which has 435 restaurants in Russia, comes at a time of heightened tensions over the fighting in eastern Ukraine. After the United States and the European Union slapped sanctions on Russian state banks and major industries last month, Russia responded with a wide-ranging ban on food prod-

ucts imported from those countries. Inspections took place or were planned in dozens of regions, Russian news agencies reported, quoting regional representa-

tives of the federal regulatory agency, Rospotrebnadzor. It was unclear how many restaurants were affected, and whether any of them were closed down as a result. □



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In this photo released by China's Xinhua news agency, Chinese President Xi Jinping, center left, and his wife Peng Liyuan, center right, pose for a photo with Mongolian Prime Minister Norov Altankhuyag and his wife Khonichin Selenge at Ulan Bator airport, Mongolia, Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014. (AP Photo/Xinhua, Ju Peng)

Mongolia, China pledge \$10B in trade

G. NAMJILSANGARAV

Associated Press

ULAN BATOR, Mongolia (AP) — China and Mongolia pledged Thursday to almost double their annual two-way trade to \$10 billion by 2020 as President Xi Jinping became the first Chinese head of state in more than a decade to visit this sprawling resource-rich nation sandwiched between China and Russia.

China also agreed to give the landlocked country access to ports in its north and northeast, the official Xinhua News Agency said. No details were immediately given. Xi met with President Elbegdorj Tsakhia in the Mongolian capital Thursday, after which the two signed a joint declaration upgrading ties to a "comprehensive strategic partnership" based on trust, friendship and "a common aspiration for closer ties of mutual benefit," Xinhua said. Xi plans to meet Friday with

Prime Minister Altankhuyag Norov, who is chairman of Elbegdorj's ruling Democratic Party, and deliver a speech at the Great Hural, Mongolia's parliament. China accounts for more than half of the country's external trade and receives almost 90 percent of its exports, mainly copper, coal and animal products, while supplying 37 percent of its imports. Bilateral trade has soared over the past decade, reaching \$6 billion last year.

Faced with declining foreign investment and increased inflation and unemployment, Mongolia is desperate for more routes to export its mineral resources. Xi's trip to Mongolia — the first by a Chinese president in 11 years — is expected to include discussions on infrastructure investment as well. Four of 11 agreements under discussion have to do with ground transportation to Chinese ports, to better

ship high-value minerals to South Korea and Japan, China expert Munkhtuul Banzragch said. Mongolia is building a railway from one of its largest coking coal deposits to the Chinese border. Still undecided is the much-debated issue of whether to stay with Mongolia's wide-gauge rail inherited from its time as a Soviet client state, or shift to a narrower gauge used in China.

Xi will oversee the signing of 20 cooperative agreements covering mineral extraction, infrastructure building, finance and diplomatic relations, the official China Daily newspaper said. With several major mining projects in legal limbo, Western investment in Mongolia has fallen sharply, causing the country to turn increasingly to China and Russia to support its economy, which traditionally relied on animal herding. □

Some see Qatar's hand in collapse of Gaza talks

ADAM SCHRECK

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — The explosions rocking the Gaza Strip may seem far removed from the flashy cars and skyscrapers of ultra-rich Qatar, but efforts to end fighting between Hamas and Israel could hinge on how the tiny Gulf Arab state wields its influence over a Palestinian militant group with few friends left.

Qatar has been home to Hamas chief-in-exile Khaled Mashaal since 2012 and has carved out a role as a key financial patron for Gaza, buying influence while shoring up an economy overseen by Hamas.

That support is prompting accusations that Qatar helped scuttle a lasting truce in the monthlong Gaza war, piling on pressure as the U.S. ally finds itself increasingly isolated as larger Mideast powers marginalize Islamists following the Arab Spring.

An official from Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah movement suggested Wednesday that Qatar torpedoed the peace talks. After signs of progress last week, Hamas negotiators returned to the table after consultations in Qatar with new conditions — prompting a similar response by Israel, he said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to discuss the negotiations publicly, said the experience indicated the Qataris "have no interest" in seeing Egyptian-led talks succeed, and that Qatar and the Muslim Brotherhood are working together to undermine Egypt.

The London-based pan-Arabic newspaper Al-Hayat separately quoted a senior Fatah official saying Qatar threatened to expel Mashaal if Hamas accepted an Egyptian peace proposal. It said Hamas demanded that Egypt grant Qatar a role in resolving the Gaza crisis, but Cairo rejected the idea until Qatar formally apologizes for its policies in Egypt since the military overthrow of Brotherhood-backed President Mohamed Morsi last summer.

Qatari officials could not be reached to comment on the claims. A Qatar-based spokesman for Hamas dismissed the Al-Hayat report as baseless and said it was an attempt to sabotage the negotiations.

"This is nonsense ... The nature of relations between Qatar and Hamas are not like that," Hamas spokesman Husam Badran told The Associated Press.

Khaled al-Batsch, a representative of the Islamic Jihad militant group, also denied Qatari interference. "We never felt at any point that there was a Qatari presence in the talks," he said.

An Israeli government official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the matter with journalists, said he did not know if Qatar actively encouraged Hamas to take a hard line, but said Qatar was at least indirectly responsible for the talks' failure.

"Qatar unfortunately has been part of the problem. They are the major supporter of Hamas," the Israeli official said. □



Loyal Visitors Honored at the Marriott Aruba Surf Club!



PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a group of loyal and friendly Visitors of Aruba, at the Marriott Surf Club as Distinguished Visitors.

The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Scott



and Mrs. Cheryl Burack and their children Marissa and Harrison Burack from Guilderland, New York, Mr. Fred and Mrs. Ana Maria Ignatovich and their son Mr. Fred and Mrs. Diane Ignatovich and their son Will Ignatovich from Okemos, Michigan. Also honored were

Mr. Dimitri and Mrs. Heather Vorona from Livingston, New Jersey. The honorees are loyal members of the Marriott Surf Club and they love Aruba very much because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, relaxation and being

on Aruba and staying at the Surf Club is like being home for them. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Jenny Boekhoudt and Mr. Joop Bangma GM from the Marriott Surf Club. □

From Trash To Treasures!

PALM BEACH - Carina Molina's newest collection, 100% made in Aruba, is on display at the Ritz Carlton Lobby Boutique till the end of August.

So hurry up and get yourself a one of a kind recycled car tire turned into a trendy handbag.

The collection is not only unique in its looks but also environment friendly because Carina is reusing abolished tires to create funky handbags, classy purses, elegant belts, and tasteful jewelry such as : necklaces, rings earrings, bracelets, chokers and even some house-hold accents like champagne bottle covers and flower vase covers. Every single piece is handmade. Each piece is unique. Even if you would want to have a reproduction of another piece you saw somewhere, as each



tire is a different one, it will never come out exactly the same! Carina told us: "Once I have the tire in my hands (and depending on how I cut it to go over the cleaning process), the piece kind of talks to me, "they show me" what they are going to become... for me it is a natural process"

What are the benefits for the finished products made of discarded tires?

This rubber is made to withstand harsh conditions therefore it is a very strong material: it is water resistant shock proof and yet very soft, flexible and extremely versatile.

The uniqueness comes from the artist's inspiration and from each tire's unique history; their particular "mark of life" depending on how they were treated, used, handled, patched and discarded. These products

are easily washable; you can polish them for a shiny look or allow the black matt color to come out.

Your choice. And in case you do break it, you can repair it yourself by using a tire patch. As simple as that!

We all want a cleaner world for our children so let start recycling!

Upcycled Designs by Carina Molina

Carina Molina was born in 1964 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Enthusiastic innovator, this time her creative side crossed into her environmentally conscious mindset and engendered her new Upcycled Designs line 100% made in Aruba, where she is giving life to a line of accessories, recycling the rubber from inner tubes of discarded cars' tires, bicycles' tires, old sneakers, weather-strips,



etc. Handbags, belts, jewelry with an elegant black base where her creativity and add-ons turn each piece into a trendy wearable one.

With this shift, Carina wants to show the community and visitors that responsibility, fun and trend can go together, and communicate the need of taking care of our mother nature starting with our own island. Carina learned her first artists' skills at the age of 5 under the tutelage of her mother. Since that time, she has continuously explored her passion for art incurring in a variety of mediums. She created jewelry designs with semi-precious stones, sculptures in paper mâché and different mixed techniques on canvas and wood, just to name a few.

Since 2000, Carina resides in Aruba with her husband. She leads a foundation for artisans on the island, where she is committed to continue to explore all aspects of her broad personality which not only includes being a Mom, a Wife, a Friend and a Psychologist but also an Artist-Designer and an Entrepreneur. □

Kaweta is looking for friends and family members

BRINGAMOS - We would like to introduce Kaweta to you, one of the donkeys that has found a home at the Aruba Donkey Sanctuary. At four a.m. a call came in that a donkey had been hit by a car at Savaneta. The problem is that when the weather has been dry too long, the roaming donkeys go to the more populated areas on the island to find water. Fortunately Kaweta could be caught right away and he was taken to the vet, who ordered an emergency operation. The result was 12 pins in the bone. Kaweta had to stay in the intensive care unit, hanging in a sling. And that was not all: because he had grated his head on the road, part of his nostril had disappeared. But fortunately Kaweta is doing okay now. There was a moment of panic when the poor donkey did not wake up from the anaesthetic, but after a while things did turn out well. This beautiful donkey has been provided with a chip, just like all the other donkeys. On the chip is information about the donkey and its medical history. The donkeys at the sanctuary have a lot of friends with whom they can play all day long. And they love living there: they are well-cared for, they are fed and watered and when they are sick the vet is called. Yes, they are expensive customers for the sanctuary. The volunteers are trying to cover the various costs with all kinds of activities and the sale of great donkey memorabilia in the shop. Fortunately, there are also visitors who wish to adopt a donkey, who buy something at the donkey shop or who make a donation. Thus they help support us. Everyone is welcome to visit the sanctuary, which has opening hours from 9 am until 4 pm and in the weekend from 10 am until 3. Entry is free of charge and one can enjoy a soft drink, a cup of coffee or a refreshing ice cream. The volunteers of the sanctuary are hoping that somebody will adopt this friendly, lovely donkey. Of course the donkey will keep on living at the sanctuary; you only need to pay AWG. 30,- per month for the donkey's keep. With

this amount you help support the sanctuary as well as your own donkey. And you will receive a beautiful certificate and a super T-shirt and your name and photo will be posted on our website. So please call the sanctuary at 593-2933; you can

also register via the website www.arubandonkey.org or donate money on bank account number 40.03.025 at the Aruba Bank! Just do it! Would you like to follow the donkeys on Facebook: surf to Donkey Sanctuary Aruba please. ☐



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Cesar and Marina honored by Aruba Tourism Authority



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, as Ambassadors of Goodwill, at the La Cabana Beach Resort. The

symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Cesar and Mrs. Marina Perez Rossi from Cd. Bolivar,

Venezuela. Cesar and Marina are loyal members of the La Cabana, and they love Aruba for the climate, beaches, restaurants and they always say that Aruba truly is One Happy Island and La Cabana is a wonderful Resort. The certifi-



cate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority

together with Mrs. Charine Charles representing the La Cabana Beach Resort. □

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Cammile Adams of the U.S. raises her fist as she celebrates winning her women's 200m butterfly finals at the Pan Pacific swimming championships in Gold Coast, Australia, Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014.

Associated Press

Ledecky wins 2 gold; Missy Franklin misses out

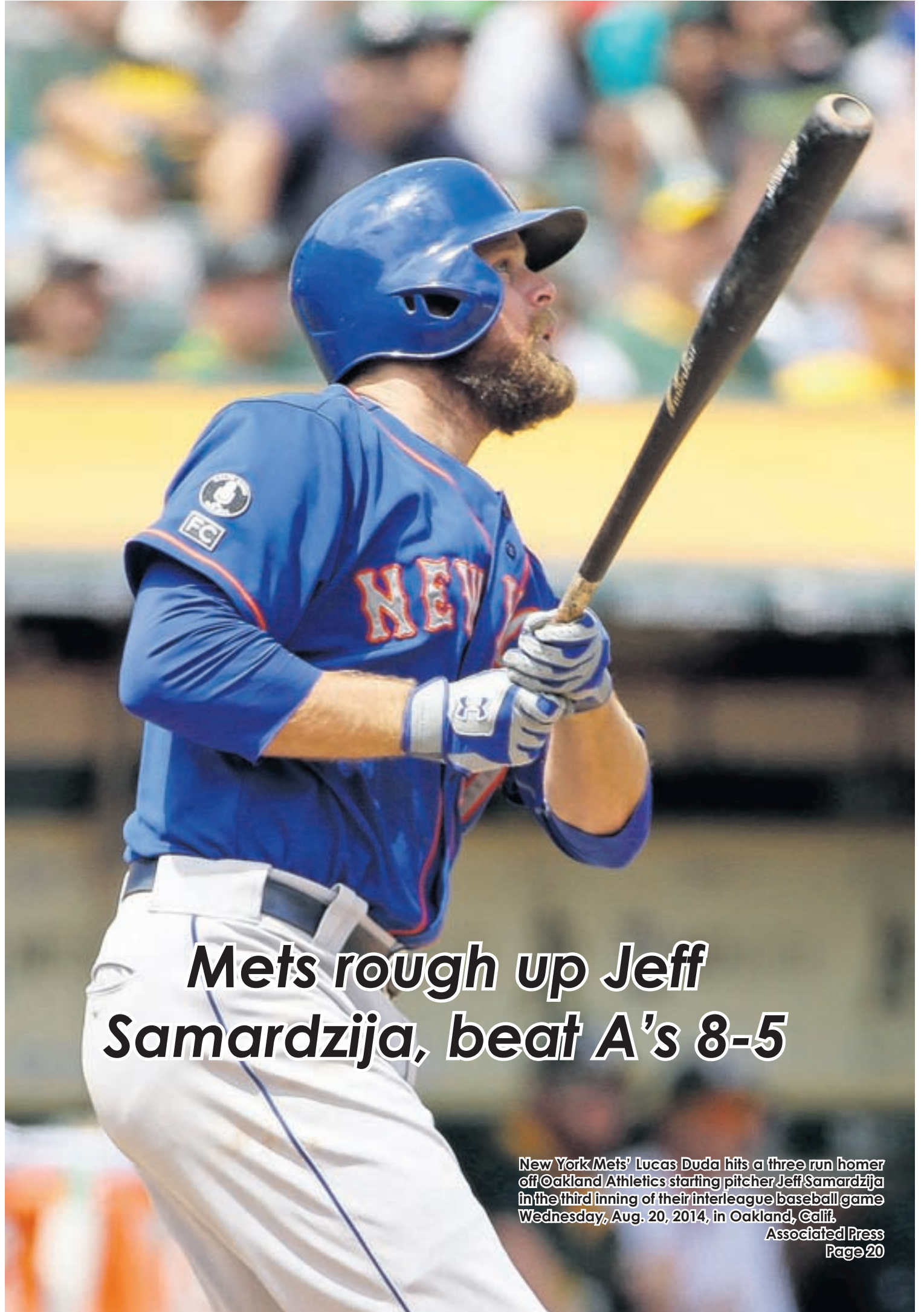
GOLD COAST, Australia (AP) — Katie Ledecky grinned and nodded her head, very slightly, in a show of approval as she surveyed the times on the scoreboard for the 800-meter freestyle.

After starting her opening night program with a gold medal in the 200 free at the Pan Pacific championships — her first at that distance in a major international meet — the 17-year-old American finished it off by narrowly missing her own world record in the 800.

It was widely expected that an American woman would win two titles on Thursday. But it was Missy Franklin, a six-time winner at last year's world championships, who had seemed most likely to do that until she hurt her back in practice.

Instead it was Ledecky, the reigning world record-holder in the 400, 800 and 1,500 freestyle, who seized her opportunity, saying she really only wanted to see how she would do competing in the 200-800 combination.

Continued on Page 22



Mets rough up Jeff Samardzija, beat A's 8-5

New York Mets' Lucas Duda hits a three run homer off Oakland Athletics starting pitcher Jeff Samardzija in the third inning of their interleague baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

Associated Press
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Goalkeeper Tim Howard taking break from U.S. team

CHICAGO (AP) — Star goalkeeper Tim Howard is taking a one-year break from the U.S. national team because of a "commitment" to his family.

The three-time World Cup veteran asked U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann to not consider him for the roster until September 2015. The 35-year-old Howard will continue to play for Everton in the English Premier League.

"Having played overseas for the last 12 years and missing out on spending time with my family, making this commitment to my family is very important at this time," Howard said in a statement Thursday. "It's the right decision at the right time. Jurgen has always been up front with all the players in saying you have to earn your place, which is something I agree with. So I look forward to coming back next fall and competing for a spot."

Howard starred in this year's World Cup in Brazil, particularly in a second-



Everton's Tim Howard, right, can't stop Leicester's Chris Wood, left, from scoring the equalizer during the English Premier League soccer match between Leicester City and Everton at King Power Stadium, in Leicester, England, Saturday, Aug 16, 2014.

Associated Press

round 2-1 loss to Belgium in which he made 15 saves. He is United States' career

leader for goalkeepers in appearances (104) and wins (55). He has played

every minute for the U.S. in the last two World Cups. The main event he will miss

is the Gold Cup next summer.

"I totally understand Tim's situation," said Klinsmann, who spoke extensively with Howard about the decision. "He was very straightforward and honest in his approach, and I admire him for that."

"I told him as long as he is the same Tim Howard that we always see performing well, he will be welcome back with open arms and right back competing for a spot. He knows that he has to prove that he deserves to be back."

Howard's backup on the national team is Brad Guzan, who also plays in the EPL for Aston Villa. Real Salt Lake's Nick Rimando was the third 'keeper at the World Cup.

Klinsmann sees plenty of opportunity for the other goalies to prove themselves.

"Always when somebody steps aside for a moment," Klinsmann said, "it gives an opportunity for the next ones in line." □



In this July 27, 2014, file photo, Minnesota Lynx's Maya Moore, center, glides to the basket as Connecticut Sun's Kelsey Bone, left, and Chiney Ogwumike, right, defend during the second half of a WNBA basketball game in Uncasville, Conn.

Associated Press

DOUG FEINBERG
AP Basketball Writer

Maya Moore put up incredible numbers all season for Minnesota. Now she's got her first WNBA MVP award. Moore earned the league's most valuable player on

Thursday, hours before the Lynx opened their Western Conference semifinals playoff series with the San Antonio Stars.

"It's a great feeling to be recognized for all the hard work that I've put in," said

Minnesota Lynx's Maya Moore wins WNBA MVP award

Moore in a phone interview with The Associated Press on Wednesday night. "I think of all the people who have helped me in my journey as a basketball player. They should be recognized with this award."

It means so much to have the respect of the people who watch the game and love the game."

Moore led the league in scoring, averaging a career-best 23.9 points. She set a WNBA record by scoring at least 30 points 12 times, including in four straight games. The scoring mark was the third-highest average in league history, trailing only Phoenix's Diana Taurasi's 25.3 points in 2006 and 24.1 points in 2008.

Moore received 35 of the 38 first place votes, surpassing Taurasi and Atlanta's

Angel McCoughtry. Los Angeles' Candace Parker was fourth and Phoenix's Brittney Griner finished fifth. "When she was a senior in college, Geno (Auriemma) described Maya to be similar to a shark, where if you punch her in the face, she goes away. I'm really proud to say that you can't punch Maya in the face anymore," Minnesota coach Cheryl Reeve said. "She's going to make you pay. She's going to take the hit, she's going to get the layup."

So that's been the evolution of Maya."

The MVP award is the latest accolade for Moore, who won two national championships at Connecticut and was instrumental in the Huskies' record 90-game winning streak. She also won gold medals in the

2010 world championship and 2012 London Olympics.

The WNBA's top draft pick in 2011, Moore finished second in voting last season before earning the finals MVP honor.

"Maya is the Michael Jordan of this league," Tulsa Shock coach Fred Williams said after Moore had 32 points, nine rebounds and five assists against his team in July.

Moore grew up idolizing Jordan and represents his Nike brand.

"When I think of Michael Jordan, I think of course of a winner, someone who is a great leader," Moore said. "He was super competitive, had a tireless work ethic. He was also great teammate who made the players around him better. It's a great compliment." □

Carter wins 100 meters in Stockholm meet

KARL RITTER

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Nesta Carter of Jamaica was the only sprinter to dip below 10 seconds as he won the men's 100 meters at the DN Galan Diamond League meet on Thursday.

Carter clocked 9.96 to beat Keston Bledman of Trinidad and Tobago, who finished in 10.09. Britain's Chijindu Ujah was third in 10.10 on a chilly track in Stockholm. Olympic champion Allyson Felix beat U.S. teammates Tori Bowie and Joanna Atkins to win the women's 200 in 22.85 seconds.

In the upset of the evening, Konstadinos Filippidis of Greece won the men's pole vault after world record holder Renaud Lavillenie of France missed all three attempts at 5.60 meters. "I'm very disappointed," said Lavillenie, who had been unbeaten in 20 consecutive competitions. "The conditions were very difficult today with strong wind and cold. When you're waiting more than two hours on the track it's hard to stay warm."

Before the rain picked up over the Olympic stadium, Ethiopia's Muktar Edris set the fastest time of the year in the men's 5,000 with 12:54.83. Queen Harrison easily won the women's 100 hurdles and Jamaica's Novlene Williams-Mills beat Sanya Richards-Ross in the 400. American 1,500-meter runner Jennifer Simpson passed indoor champion Genzebe Diababa and last week's European champion Sifan Hassan on the final stretch to win in 4:00.38.

In the men's 400 hurdles, Michael Tinsley of the U.S. edged Puerto Rico's Javier Culson with a time of 49.60. Reese Hoffa won the men's shot put at 21.06 meters while Croatia's Sandra Perkovic dominated the women's discus, throwing 66.74 to beat former world champion Dani Samuels of Australia by more than 1 meter. American Tianna

Bartoletta leapt 6.98 meters in her final attempt to win the women's long jump, beating European champion Eloyse Lesueur of France by just 4 centimeters.

"It was really exciting to compete again after such a long break while Europe and Africa had their championships," Bartoletta told diamondleague.com. □



Jennifer Simpson of the U.S. reacts after winning the women's 1500 meters during the IAAF Diamond League DN Galan meeting at the Olympic Stadium, Stockholm, Sweden, Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014.

Associated Press

Weekly Calendar

SEAPORT Casino

MONDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO
 1:00pm - 3:30pm Price per Bingo Card US\$ 6
 Progressive US\$ 1.15 (AWG 2.00)
FREE BINGO
 Starts at 9:30pm
 From 9:00pm issuing FREE Bingo Card

TUESDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO
 1:00pm - 3:30pm Price per Bingo Card US\$ 6
 Progressive US\$ 1.15 (AWG 2.00)
CASH GIVEAWAY
 8:00pm - 11:00 pm
 Prize 1 - \$ 200
 Prize 2 - \$ 150
 Prize 3 - \$ 50
 Prize 4 - \$ 50

WEDNESDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO
 1:00pm - 3:30pm Price per Bingo Card US\$ 6
 Progressive US\$ 1.15 (AWG 2.00)
FREE BINGO
 Starts at 9:30pm
 From 9:00pm issuing FREE Bingo Card

THURSDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO
 1:00pm - 3:30pm Price per Bingo Card US\$ 6
 Progressive US\$ 1.15 (AWG 2.00)
 Inscription at 6:00pm | Tournament start at 8:00pm
FREE SLOT TOURNAMENT
 Prize 1 - \$ 250
 Prize 2 - \$ 150
 Prize 3 - \$ 50
 Prize 4 - \$ 50

FRIDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO
 1:00pm - 3:30pm Price per Bingo Card US\$ 6
 Progressive US\$ 1.15 (AWG 2.00)
CRAZY CASH
 Prize 1 - \$ 300
 Prize 2 - \$ 200
 Prize 3 - \$ 100
 From 9:30pm - 11:30pm

SATURDAY

DAILY POWER BALL BINGO
 1:00pm - 3:30pm Price per Bingo Card US\$ 6
 Progressive US\$ 1.15 (AWG 2.00)
TABLE MANIA ALL DAY
 Visit our tables for more information

SUNDAY

SUPER SUNDAY POWER BALL BINGO
 1:00pm - 3:30pm
 Price per Bingo Card US\$ 8.50
 Progressive US\$ 1.15 (AWG 2.00)
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AL Capsules

Wheeler wins again, Mets end 3-game skid

The Associated Press

METS 8, ATHLETICS 5

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Lucas Duda hit a three-run homer, Eric Campbell also connected, and the New York Mets beat Oakland to snap a three-game losing streak.

Zack Wheeler (9-8) allowed two earned runs while working 5 2-3 solid innings. The Mets split their quick two-game interleague series. Wheeler is 6-0 with a 2.12 ERA over his nine outings since June 30. He is 4-1 in his last 10 road starts.

Jeury Familia relieved Vic Black with the bases loaded and one out in the eighth and walked in a run but avoided further damage. He finished for his fourth save.

Campbell and Duda homered during a five-run third against Jeff Samardzija (3-3).

Samardzija had been unbeaten in five previous starts at the Coliseum. Instead, he was done after 3 2-3 innings.

TIGERS 6, RAYS 0

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — Rick Porcello pitched a three-hitter for his AL-leading third shutout, and Victor Martinez hit a grand slam, leading Detroit over Tampa Bay.

The Rays lost their fourth in a row.

Porcello (14-8) moved into a tie for the AL lead in wins, retiring 20 straight batters



New York Mets' Lucas Duda hits a three run homer off Oakland Athletics starting pitcher Jeff Samardzija in the third inning of their interleague baseball game Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

after Ben Zobrist's double in the first.

Porcello walked none and struck out four in his first win since Aug. 2. He matched Miami's Henderson Alvarez for the major league lead in shutouts.

Martinez hit his fourth career slam, connecting off Kirby Yates in the seventh. Starter Jake Odorizzi (9-10) left earlier in the inning.

Wil Myers, the reigning AL Rookie of the Year, went 0 for 3 in his return to the

Rays' lineup after missing 70 games because of a broken right wrist.

ASTROS 5, YANKEES 2

NEW YORK (AP) — Scott Feldman shut down the slumping New York Yankees again, and Robbie Grossman snapped a seventh-inning tie with a two-run single that sent Houston to a victory.

Dexter Fowler had an RBI double, Jose Altuve added a run-scoring single, and the Astros (54-73) did more

damage to New York's playoff chances with their fourth victory in five meetings this season. The fourth-place Astros improved to 4-7 in the Bronx and will go for a three-game sweep Thursday.

Stephen Drew hit his first homer for New York, and Jacoby Ellsbury drove in a run with a bunt single. But the Yankees (63-61) lost for the seventh time in nine games and dropped five games out of a playoff spot. Feld-

man (7-9) matched a career high by throwing 121 pitches in 6 2-3 innings. Jose Veras worked the ninth for his first save since Sept. 2, 2013, with Detroit.

Yankees reliever David Huff (2-1) took the loss.

ANGELS 8, RED SOX 3

BOSTON (AP) — Josh Hamilton broke out of a slump with two hits and three RBIs, Howie Kendrick drove in two runs, and the Los Angeles Angels beat Boston.

Hamilton was in a 5-for-41 slump with 18 strikeouts but hit two sacrifice flies and then singled in the Angels' final run in the ninth inning.

The Angels' seventh win in eight games put them 1 1-2 games ahead of Oakland but it was costly. Right-handed starter Garrett Richards sustained a patellar injury in his left knee while running to cover first base in the second inning.

Richards, 7-2 in his previous 11 starts, left after 1 2-3 innings with a 2-0 deficit. Boston made it 3-0 on David Ortiz's homer in the third off winning pitcher Cory Rasmus (3-1).

That gave Ortiz his eighth 30-homer season with Boston, tying Ted Williams' club record. Ortiz went 4 for 4 and is 8 for 10 in the series with four walks.

Clay Buchholz (5-8) took a 3-1 lead into the fifth but let the first six batters reach base. That sent Boston toward its fourth straight loss.



Los Angeles Angels starting pitcher Garrett Richards grimaces as he is attended to on the field after he was injured during the second inning of a baseball game against the Boston Red Sox at Fenway Park in Boston, Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2014.

Angels' Richards out for season with knee injury

BOSTON (AP) — The Los Angeles Angels are going to be without Garrett Richards for a playoffs run.

One of the AL West leader's top starters sustained a serious knee injury, tearing his left patellar tendon Wednesday against the Boston Red Sox

Richards was 13-4 with a 2.61 ERA this year. It's a serious blow to the Angels, who also lost starter Tyler

Skaggs to Tommy John surgery earlier this season.

General manager Jerry Dipoto said Thursday "we'll be open" about finding a deal to replace Richards in the rotation.

Richards crumbled to the ground covering first base on a potential 3-6-1 doubles play against Boston. He was taken off the field on a stretcher and was flown to Los Angeles on Thursday morning, where

he had an MRI.

Richards will have surgery next week and the rehabilitation time should be six to nine months.

The Angels selected the contract of left-hander Wade LeBlanc, who pitched briefly for the New York Yankees earlier this season, from Triple-A Salt Lake. Richards was placed on the 60-day DL to make room on the 40-man roster.

NL Capsules

Nick Martinez, Rangers top Marlins, 5-4

The Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — Nick Martinez allowed two runs in six innings in his homecoming, Alex Rios drove in two runs, and the Texas Rangers roughed up Miami starter Nathan Eovaldi on the way to a 5-4 win over the Marlins on Wednesday.

Leonys Martin had three hits for Texas, which led 5-0 after two innings.

Martinez (3-9) allowed six hits and threw 62 of his 96 pitches for strikes. He was born in nearby Hialeah and pitched at Belen Jesuit Prep, about 12 miles from Marlins Park.

Miami rallied in the ninth with solo homers by Marcell Ozuna and pinch-hitter Jarrod Saltalamacchia, both off Neftali Feliz. With the tying run on first, Feliz closed out his fifth save in six chances by striking out Donovan Solano.

Eovaldi (6-8) gave up nine hits and five runs, four earned, in five innings.

NATIONALS 3, DIAMONDBACKS 2

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Pinch-hitter Anthony Rendon's RBI single in the bottom of the ninth inning lifted surging Washington past Arizona for its ninth straight victory.

Bryce Harper opened the ninth with a single off Evan Marshall (4-3) and went to third on Kevin Frandsen's base hit. Out of the starting lineup for the first time in 63 games, Rendon ripped a single past third baseman Cliff Pennington, scoring Harper.

Five of Washington's last six victories have been by a single run with four coming in its last at-bat.

The Diamondbacks tied the game in the eighth on Ender Inciarte's two-run homer against reliever Tyler Clippard. Rafael Soriano (3-1) pitched the ninth.

Arizona has lost five straight and is 5-13 in August.

The Nationals last won nine in a row when they matched a franchise-record tying 10-game streak June 2-12, 2005. Washington also extended its home win streak to eight games.

Tanner Roark threw seven scoreless innings for the Nationals and left with a 2-0 lead. The NL East-leading Nationals moved seven games ahead of second place Atlanta.

PADRES 4, DODGERS 1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alexi Amarista had two hits and drove in a run, Eric Stults combined with three relievers on a six-hitter, and the San Diego Padres beat the NL West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers.

Stults (6-13) allowed one run in five innings, struck out five and walked one. The Dodgers came into the game with a 20-10 record against left-handed opponents, but Stults did just enough against the team he pitched for from 2006-09.

Kevin Quackenbush pitched the ninth to earn his first major league save. He started a 1-2-3 putout to end the game.

Rymer Liriano went 2 for 3 with a walk and two runs scored, and Seth Smith went 2 for 5 for the Padres, who pounded out 11 hits in



Texas Rangers' Leonys Martin (2) is safe stealing second and went on to third on a throwing error by Miami Marlins first baseman Garrett Jones in the sixth inning during an interleague baseball game, Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2014, in Miami. At right is Miami Marlins shortstop Adeiny Hechavarria.

Associated Press

ending a two-game skid. Roberto Hernandez (7-9) gave up four runs and eight hits in five innings.

PHILLIES 4, MARINERS 3

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Wil Nieves doubled and had three hits, and Cole Hamels got a victory when he wasn't at his best as Philadelphia defeated Seattle. Chase Utley had the go-

ahead RBI, and Ben Revere and Marlon Byrd drove in runs for the Phillies, who won for just the third time in nine games.

Kendrys Morales homered for Seattle, which was bidding to move 12 games over .500 for the first time since 2007. The Mariners lost for the third time in 10 games.

Kvitova moves into semifinals at Connecticut Open

PAT EATON-ROBB

Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Wimbledon champion Petra Kvitova moved into the semifinals of the Connecticut Open with a 6-4, 6-1 win Thursday over fellow Czech player Barbora Zahlavova Strycova.

Kvitova went down by a service break in the third game of the match, but avoided the upset bug that has sent every other seeded player in the tournament packing.

Trailing 4-3, the second seed called her coach onto the court, and he told her to stop trying to win every point and be more patient. "So I was trying to play a little bit longer rallies, just wait for the good point that I can really attack her,

going forward for the final volleys, for example," she said. It worked. She broke back to tie it at 4, and then broke Zahlavova Strycova again to take the set.

She cruised in the second, taking the final five games of the match.

Kvitova, who won here in 2012 and lost in the finals last year to Simona Halep, said she's not treating this tournament as a glorified practice for next week's U.S. Open Slam— something other big names have been known to do.

"I want to play my best tennis and have the great result I can," she said. "Every match I step on the court, I want to win."

She will play the winner of Thursday's late match between Kirsten Flipkins of



Petra Kvitova, of the Czech Republic, reaches for a backhand against compatriot Barbora Zahlavova Strycova at the New Haven Open tennis tournament in New Haven, Conn., on Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014. Kvitova won 6-4, 6-1.

Associated Press

Belgium and Australian Samantha Stosur.

On the other side of the bracket, Magdalena Rybarikova of Slovakia ousted American Alison Riske in three sets, 7-5, 0-6, 6-4.

Rybarikova, who beat the top-seeded Halep in the second round, broke Riske's serve six times. But she failed to hold her own serve seven times, and said she felt lucky to escape

with the win.

"I was really fighting, trying to somehow make her play worse, to make her to make more mistakes than me," she said. "It kind of works."

Riske, who was the last remaining American in the draw, said she made too many errors in the third set. Three double faults in one game put her down 4-2 and she was not able to climb all the way back.

"Obviously at this level, that can't happen," she said. "That was a huge problem." Rybarikova will face hard-serving Italian Camila Giorgi in the semifinals. Giorgi, who upset Caroline Wozniacki in the second round, got by Garbine Muguruza of Spain, 6-4, 6-7 (4), 6-2.

Sprinter Gatlin still tripped up by checkered past

PAT GRAHAM
AP Sports Writer

Justin Gatlin hasn't felt this lean or this quick or even this hungry — he's cut way back on cheeseburgers and chocolate — in quite some time.

Using a shorter, more compact stride, the American sprinter has won all 11 of his 100-meter races this season, although none have been against a certain person named Usain Bolt.

Yet, no matter how many events Gatlin wins or how fast he flies down the track, there's one thing he can't outrun — his checkered past.

Although he's four years removed from serving his four-year doping suspension, some meets still refuse to include him.

Gatlin wasn't invited to the Diamond League race in Stockholm on Thursday. Same with Birmingham, England, three days later, or the competition in Zurich on Aug. 28. All these Diamond League races are considered the biggest in this, a middle year in the Olympic cycle that does not include outdoor world championships.

"I guess paying dues in their eyes is not ever running again in their races,"



In this July 18, 2014, file photo, Justin Gatlin, of the United States, wins the men's 200 meters during the Herculis International Athletics Meeting, at the Louis II Stadium, in Monaco.

Associated Press

said Gatlin, the 2004 Olympic 100-meter gold medalist who tested positive test for excessive testosterone in 2006, was reinstated from his ban on July 24, 2010, and captured bronze at the London Games two years later. "I look at myself as the 'Batman' of track — a vigilante. You may not like me, but I'm needed." Meet directors insist there's no grudge and that different races simply have different protocols.

The race in Zurich, for in-

stance, is owned by a private club and its bylaws include a provision where there will be no invitations extended to any athletes banned for two years or more.

However, there's wiggle room. That particular meet invited Gatlin last season because he was leading the Diamond League in the 100 and that race was the final.

This season, since the 200 counts in the standings and the 100 is an invitational

race, "we would certainly not invite him," meet director Patrick Magyar said in a phone interview.

It could've been quite the showdown, too, with Bolt expected to attend. Gatlin beat Bolt on June 6, 2013, at a Diamond League race in Rome, one of the few to hold off the Jamaican sensation, who's the world record holder in the 100 and 200.

"There's no personal animosity," Magyar said. "The decision of the general as-

sembly stands as this: We don't want to give our money to athletes that have brought the sport disrepute."

A few years back, Rajne Soderberg, the President of Euromeetings, said the organization representing Europe's top track events "will continue to recommend that members do not invite athletes who we believe cause disrepute to our meetings and our sport."

Soderberg didn't respond to numerous emails sent this summer by The Associated Press to see if that sentiment still held true.

There are those who contend that such a stance amounts to penalizing an athlete twice, since they've already served their time.

The International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF), the governing body for the sport, doesn't see it that way. Gatlin will have been invited to nine of the 14 Diamond League races by the end of the season. "It is up to the meeting organizers to decide which athletes are welcome, and whether they will add value to the competition," Nick Davies, the Deputy General Secretary of the IAAF, wrote in an email. "By the nature of an 'Invitational Meeting' — athletes must be invited to compete and there is no obligation on a meeting organizer to select any specific athlete if they prefer not to."

So while fellow American Michael Rodgers has a chance to increase his advantage in the 100-meter Diamond League standings in Stockholm — he leads Gatlin by a point — the 32-year-old Gatlin will compete at another race in Amsterdam on Friday to stay sharp.

"I will continue to voice my displeasure in meets punishing Justin (and other athletes who've served their bans) who under IAAF rules, should be allowed to compete fairly in the sport with everyone else," Gatlin's agent, Renaldo Nehemiah, wrote in an email. "The IAAF has established the rules."

Ledecky wins

Continued from Page 17

"I'm really looking forward to the rest of the meet," Ledecky said. "This day gives me a lot of confidence. The 200 gave me a lot of confidence for the 800, so just sort of building off each of my swims."

She was a body-length ahead of world-record pace at one stage but faded slightly to finish in 8 minutes, 11.35 seconds — just outside the world mark of 8:11 she set in June.

Lauren Boyle of New Zealand was second in 8:18.87 and Brittany MacLean of Canada was third.

The pain started to set in at the 500-meter mark, Ledecky said, explaining that her shoulders and arms "got kind of tired."

"Once I got to the 600



Katie Ledecky of the U.S. smiles after winning her women's 200m freestyle at the Pan Pacific swimming championships in Gold Coast, Australia, Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014.

Associated Press

mark, I told myself 'I just swam the 200 a little bit ago, I can swim a 200. I can get through this,'" Ledecky said. "I wasn't really focusing on hitting a certain time, I just wanted to get through the double."

With no Franklin in the earlier 200 final, Ledecky won

in a meet record 1:55.74, ahead of Bronte Barratt of Australia and American teammate Shannon Vreeland.

Franklin, hampered by back spasms that stopped her in practice on Tuesday and kept her in doubt for the meet until the first

Review: Video blackouts impede baseball online

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

LA PORTE, Ind. (AP) — Major League Baseball shows what can be done right when it comes to making its games available on the Internet. It also underscores frustrations fans have with online sports coverage in general: The business of sports is set up to feed TV sets, and Internet viewers are an afterthought.

Television channels pay a lot for rights to cover games, and they don't want to lose audiences to computers or mobile apps. As a result, fans who pay \$20 or more a month for baseball's online video package, MLB.TV, are blocked from games involving hometown teams. Until that changes — and that might come soon — MLB.TV is likely to appeal mostly to die-hard fans who care about more than just their hometown teams. A much-cheaper At Bat offering is available for casual fans like me.

With MLB.TV, I was able to catch a New York Mets-Yankees game as I traveled through Indiana by train this spring, but the option was yanked the next evening after my train arrived in New York.

Then again, had the Mets played the Chicago Cubs, I would have also been blocked in La Porte, Indiana, because it's consider part of Chicago's television market. In addition, some weekend games are blacked out more broadly because of national or regional TV coverage.

Fortunately, the blackouts are starting to ease: Baseball offered live streaming of the All-Star Game for the first time last month and has similar plans for the playoffs and the World Series. This week, baseball's online chief, Bob Bowman, told me he's optimistic a deal can be reached soon to lift blackouts on regular season games as well, possibly by the 2015 season.

The catch: You'll need a cable or satellite TV package that includes the channel that normally televises hometown games. That'll likely be the case



In this April 12, 2014 file photo, a television camera stands near the Toronto Blue Jays' on deck circle during a baseball game between the Blue Jays and the Baltimore Orioles, in Baltimore.

Associated Press

even if the channel is already offered over the air for free.

You're basically paying twice — for the cable or satellite subscription and for the MLB.TV service.

The basic MLB.TV service costs \$20 a month is mainly for personal computers. The MLB.TV Premium package permits viewing on phones, tablets, game consoles, streaming TV devices and other gadgets. It costs \$25 a month.

With the Premium service, you can also choose which team's television feed and announcers you want. On some devices and Web players, there are also options to get the radio broadcasts while watching the television feed, or to get the ballpark's natural sound and mute chatty announcers.

Video of blacked-out games is available about 90 minutes after the game ends. You can also listen to home or away radio broadcasts live, even for hometown teams.

One of my favorite features is the condensed video, which is available a few hours after a game ends and includes hometown teams. It strips out all the nonsense, such as warm-ups, commercial breaks and inconsequential pitches, so a three-hour game takes only about 15 minutes to watch. You still

see every major play, along with occasional replays in slow motion, but you won't get every ball and strike. If 15 minutes is still too much, a shorter highlights video is available.

Condensed video is free on personal computers. For mobile devices, you need either the Premium service or a separate offering called At Bat, which costs \$3 a month.

Either subscription also gets you a neat feature called

Gameday Pitch by Pitch. From your phone or tablet, you see a graphical interpretation of what's happening live on the field, with details on where runners are on base, how fast each pitch is thrown and where it crosses the plate. Next year, baseball plans to start offering similar metrics for plays in the field. Overall, baseball does a good job of going beyond merely slapping television feeds online. For an

additional \$13 a month, fans can even get video of selected minor-league games.

The live video is great for frequent travelers and transplants who are fans of teams in other cities. Avid fans might also use it to follow other contenders in their team's division as the season nears its end.

For following a hometown team at home, though, most of MLB.TV's benefits are off-limits. The cheaper At Bat package offers many of the features I like, including condensed video.

That gets me back to the blackouts. There's a \$22-a-month difference between At Bat and Premium. That's revenue baseball is missing out on.

I'm glad to hear that baseball is in talks to relax those restrictions for pay-TV subscribers. That will make MLB.TV more appealing to many fans, but it won't help the growing number of people who don't have cable or satellite TV.

I couldn't just buy SportsNet New York to get Mets games, whether on television or online. I'd need to pay at least \$70 a month for full cable service. No, thanks. □

Music site SoundCloud to start paying artists

BERLIN (AP) — SoundCloud said Thursday that it will start paying artists and record companies whose music is played on the popular streaming site, a move that will bring it in line with competitors such as YouTube and Spotify.

Berlin-based SoundCloud boasts some 175 million unique listeners a month, but so far those who upload tracks to the site haven't received money. To fund the payments SoundCloud is introducing ads, the revenue from which will be shared with musicians and rights holders.

"This is something we've been wanting to get to

ever since we started the company," SoundCloud founder Alexander Ljung told The Associated Press. He said artists will be able to decide on which tracks the audio and display ads can appear, and initially only content played in the United States will be counted.

The program will start with 20 partners ranging from major record companies such as Sony/ATV and BMG to independent artists; eventually everyone will be able to join.

Advertisers include Red Bull, Jaguar and Comedy Central.

Despite tying in record

companies, SoundCloud has no plans to shift away from its support for new, original music, said Ljung. Instead, it hopes that young artists will see it as a way to start earning money with their music early on, he said.

"The more valuable we make (the site), the more they will use it," said Ljung. "We don't have a perspective for going out and buying a load of content."

Listening to music on SoundCloud is free. However, users who don't want to see or hear the ads will be able to get a subscription that will remove them, he said. □

Stocks advance to put S&P 500 at record high

KEN SWEET

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market advanced for a fourth straight day Thursday, pushing the Standard & Poor's 500 index to a record high.

Investors were encouraged by news that the number of people seeking unemployment benefits remains at a multi-year low. Hewlett-Packard rose after delivering better results, while Sears plunged after reporting that its loss doubled from a year ago.

The S&P 500 rose 5.87 points, or 0.3 percent, to 1,992.37, four points above the record close the index set on July 24.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 60.36 points, or 0.4 percent, to 17,039.49. It was the Dow's first close above 17,000 since July 24. The Nasdaq composite rose 5.62 points, or 0.1 percent, to 4,532.10.

Hewlett-Packard was the biggest gainer among the major indexes. The technology giant rose \$1.88, or 5.4 percent, to \$37.00 after reporting better-than-expected results and its first sales increase in nearly three years. HP has been undergoing a multi-year restructuring under CEO Meg Whitman, who has laid off employees and cut back businesses that aren't profitable.

Bank of America was also among the market's biggest advancers. The company reached a \$16.65 billion settlement with the Justice Department over its sale of mortgage-backed securities in the months leading up to the financial

crisis. The settlement is by far the largest deal the Justice Department has reached with a bank over the 2008 mortgage meltdown. BofA rose 64 cents, or 4 percent, to \$16.16.

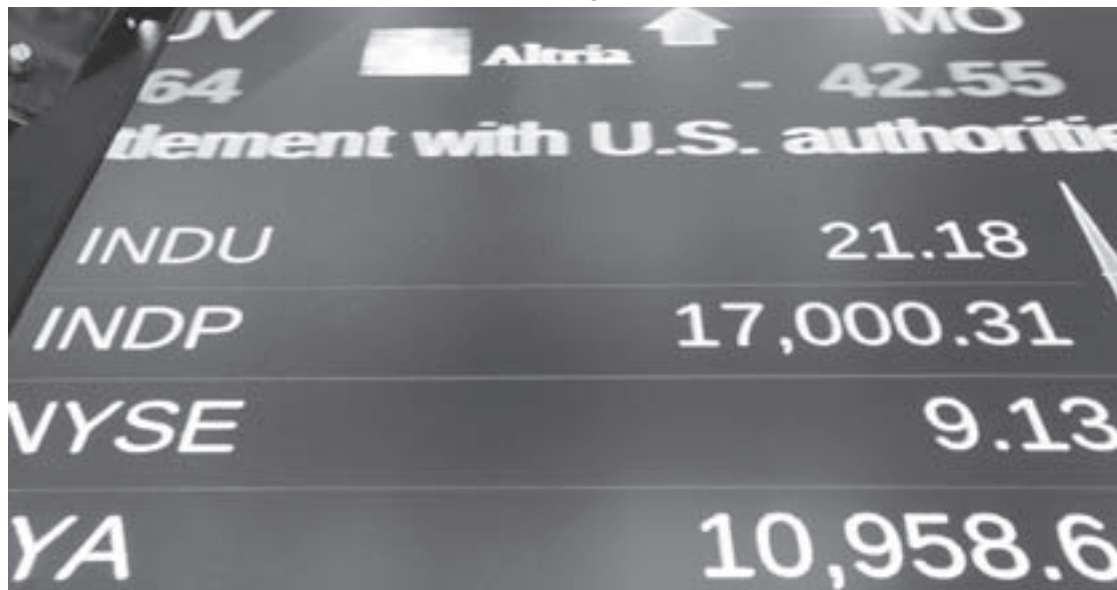
Stocks opened higher and remained there throughout the day, although buying did pick up in the last hour of trading. Investors were encouraged by a report from the Department of Labor that claims for unem-

"We've have been able to breathe a sigh of relief that those worst-case scenarios have been avoided, at least for the time being," said Ryan Larson, head of equity trading with RBC Global Asset Management. Investors now turn to Friday, when Fed Chair Janet Yellen will give a speech at the Fed's annual conference of central bankers and other policymakers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Investors

intensified in recent months as the Fed winds down its other economic stimulus.

Overall, it's been a quiet week for the market. Volumes are low as many Wall Street workers try to fit in their vacations before trading picks up after Labor Day. Thursday was the 10th-slowest trading day of the year and Wednesday was the fifth-slowest.

Benchmark U.S. crude for October delivery rose 51



A board above the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shows the Dow Jones industrial average above 17, 000, Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014. U.S. stocks were mostly higher in trading Thursday, helped by a report that showed the number of people seeking unemployment benefits remains at a multi-year low. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

ployment benefits, a proxy for the number of people who recently lost their jobs and are looking for work, fell by 14,000 last week to 298,000. The less-volatile four-week average was 300,750, below the average before the Great Recession.

Stocks have been rising steadily all month, due to better economic data and a cooling of tensions in Ukraine, Gaza and Iraq. The S&P 500 is on pace to have its best month since February.

will be watching closely for clues into her thinking on the timing of interest rate increases.

Yellen's speech will come two days after the minutes from the Fed's July meeting showed that a majority of the central bank's policymakers believe the U.S. economy is improving enough for the bank to start raising interest rates sooner than previously thought. The debate on when the Fed should begin increasing rates, which have been near zero since 2008, has

cents to \$93.96 a barrel in New York. In metals trading, gold fell \$19.80 to \$1,275.40 an ounce, silver fell eight cents to \$19.42 an ounce and copper was little changed at \$3.18 a pound. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note dipped to 2.41 percent from 2.43 percent the day before.

In individual companies: — Dollar General, Dollar Tree and Family Dollar all fell after Family Dollar rejected Dollar General's unsolicited \$9 billion buyout offer, citing antitrust concerns. □

HP revenue and cash flow improve, but earnings fall

QUENTIN HARDY

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SAN FRANCISCO - In nearly three years running Hewlett-Packard Co., Meg Whitman has restructured and managed costs at the technology giant, buying time for what had been a company in crisis. What's not yet clear is whether she has built it a future.

The problem was reflected in HP's third-quarter earnings, released this week. Revenue was modestly higher, while earnings fell. Whitman also managed to drastically increase HP's cash flow, critical for new investment, while increasing research and development by 11 percent.

"We feel good about the future," she said in an interview. "We've gone back to what made this company great."

Still, there were no signs that the areas Whitman identified as the pillars of future growth - big data analysis, cloud computing, and security software - would yield significant revenue, even in a year or two.

That may be understandable, given that HP is on track to have revenue over \$100 billion this year.

"For us, \$100 million is nothing," she said. "For a start-up that would be huge."

Whitman also said that HP would soon make announcements about going into three-dimensional printing. Here also, she said, revenue would be some time off.

Wednesday's results were slightly better than Wall Street had predicted. HP had revenue of \$27.6 billion, up from \$27.2 billion a year ago. Net earnings were \$985 million, or 52 cents a share, down from \$1.4 billion a year earlier.

The revenue number was well above the \$27 billion predicted by analysts polled by Thomson Reuters. Using nonstandard accounting popular with technology shares, analysts had projected earnings per share of 89 cents, which was the figure HP reported using this method. HP shares nudged down slightly in after-hours trading. □

Hostess closing bakery that created the Twinkie

CHICAGO (AP) — Hostess Brands plans to close the suburban Chicago bakery where the iconic American snack cake Twinkie was invented in 1930, cutting 400 jobs and shuttering a piece of American baking history.

The company said Wednesday it plans to close the Schiller Park bakery in October.

According to the Chicago Sun-Times, Hostess Brands

CEO Bill Toler said the company is closing the plant as it tries to improve efficiency.

"While the old Hostess company was in bankruptcy, many competitors took over the shelves and are tenaciously defending their business and thus we must be highly efficient and technologically advanced to compete," he said.

Hostess filed for bankrupt-

cy in 2012.

The plant's employees were stunned by the news, Donald Woods said. He is president of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco workers and Grain Millers International Union Local 1. "They were working like 12 hours, six days a week, and they were looking for this plant to be a part of their future," he said, adding that the workers voted in May to rejoin the

union. They had been told the company planned to keep the plant open long term, he said.

The bakery had just reopened a little over a year ago as Twinkies returned to store shelves after Hostess' bankruptcy.

The spongy, cream-filled snack cake was invented in Schiller Park in 1930 by a bakery manager looking for uses for idle shortcake pans. □

Family Dollar rejects takeover bid by Dollar General

MICHAEL J. DE LA MERCED
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Family Dollar Stores on Thursday rejected an \$8.9 billion takeover bid from Dollar General, citing "significant antitrust issues" related to that offer. Instead, Family Dollar is holding firm to its earlier \$8.5 billion merger deal with Dollar Tree, a smaller competitor in the deep-

discount retail space. The move sets up a potentially bruising battle for control of one of the country's biggest dollar discount stores, as retailers seek to cater to America's working poor. Raising antitrust as an issue - as opposed to simply objecting to the price - suggests that the target company plans to resist, since that defense could

hurt any combination of the two down the road. In its announcement on Thursday, Family Dollar brushed aside accusations by Dollar General that its chief executive, Howard Levine, was uninterested in a deal because he might lose his job. Instead, it focused on what it described as unacceptable antitrust risk from putting together

two of the biggest dollar stores in the country. Family Dollar acknowledged that it had held talks with Dollar General several times over the last year and a half. During that time, its advisers were studying - and becoming more convinced - that a union would not pass regulatory muster. Compounding matters, Dollar Gen-

eral declined to attend a meeting in June to discuss antitrust issues. By the time the two sides met again, on June 19, Dollar General expressed no interest in pursuing a deal. And Family Dollar had by then signed a non-disclosure agreement with Dollar Tree that prevented any mention of their deal talks. □

Sears holdings posts first-half loss of nearly \$1 billion

ELIZABETH A. HARRIS
© 2014 New York Times

Sears Holdings announced Thursday that it had lost nearly \$1 billion in the first six months of the year. The company has been bleeding money for several quarters as its leadership tries to transform the business from a traditional retailer into a more targeted company that relies on loyal shoppers, who are offered personalized deals. Members of its free Shop Your Way rewards program accounted for 73 percent of quarterly sales, the company said Thursday, and its online sales in the quarter grew 18 percent from the period a year earlier. Nonetheless, rewards for the company have not materialized.

Sears Holdings, which owns Sears and Kmart stores, lost \$573 million during its second quarter and \$975 million during the first half of the year. The company's quarterly revenue declined to \$8 billion, from \$8.9 billion in the period a

year earlier. The company's chief executive, Edward S. Lampert, a hedge fund magnate whose investment acumen was once compared to that of Warren E. Buffett, called the performance

personally committed to driving our transformation, improving the profit performance of the company and creating shareholder value," Lampert said in a statement. Part of Lampert's plan for Sears

stores are shuttered, the company will have about 1,900 Sears and Kmart big-box stores in the United States. On a call recorded for investors, company executives pointed to several weak spots that helped

frequent trips to their stores - was described as poor, as was the household business. An area that was called out as a positive indicator could also be read with some trepidation. Executives said that a year ago, domestic sales of mattresses and appliances, which were once thought to be synonymous with the company, in its existing stores had declined 0.8 percent, but this quarter they rose despite a difficult environment for consumer electronics. The increase, though, was a meager 0.1 percent over the previous year. Sears Canada accounted for 16 percent of the company's decline in revenue for the quarter, and executives reminded investors Thursday that the company hoped to sell its 51 percent stake in that entity, which it believes will generate \$765 million in cash.

Also reflected in the quarterly earnings Thursday was the separation of Lands' End from the business. □



A customer walks towards a Sears store in Hialeah, Fla. On Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014, Sears Holdings Corp. reported quarterly financial results. (AP Photo/Alan Diaz)

unacceptable and sought to assure investors that he was committed to reversing the retailer's fortunes. "As the CEO and the largest individual shareholder of Sears Holdings, I am

includes closing underperforming stores. The company reported that it had closed about 95 stores this year, out of about 130 locations it previously said it would close. Once those

lead to the disappointing performance. The grocery business - which several major competitors, including Target and Wal-Mart, have emphasized in recent years to encourage

Bank of America reaches \$16.65B mortgage settlement

MICHAEL CORKERY
MATT APUZZO
© 2014 New York Times

Bank of America and the Justice Department have reached a record \$16.65 billion settlement, capping the most sweeping federal investigation into the sale of toxic mortgages by a Wall Street bank since the 2008 financial crisis. The landmark settlement, announced by Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr. in Washington on Thursday, requires Bank of America to pay a \$9.65 billion cash

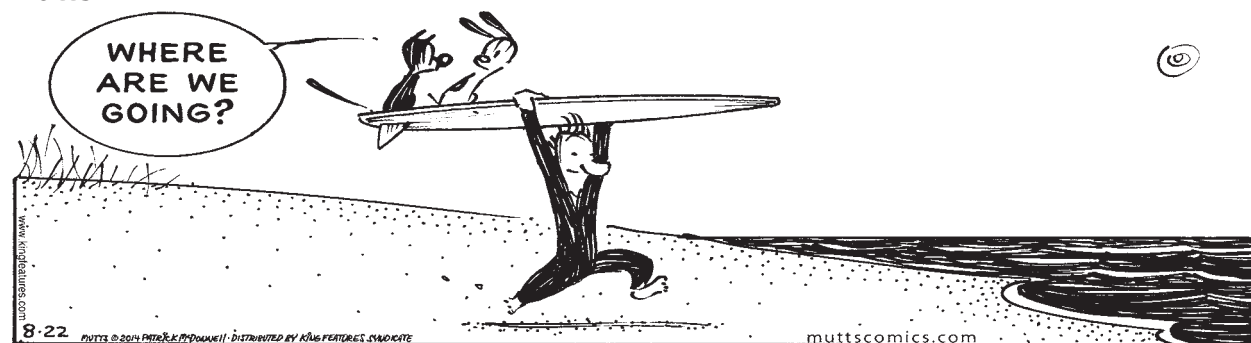
penalty and provide about \$7 billion in relief to homeowners and blighted neighborhoods. "The size and scope of this multi-billion-dollar agreement go far beyond the 'cost of doing business,'" Holder said in a prepared statement. "This outcome does not preclude any criminal charges against the bank or its employees. Nor was it inevitable over these last few weeks that this case would be resolved out of court." The accord ends a pain-

ful chapter for Bank of America, based in Charlotte, North Carolina, which bought Countrywide Financial as the U.S. housing market was collapsing in early 2008, ultimately causing widespread losses across the financial system. Including Thursday's deal, which is the largest government settlement by a company in U.S. history, Bank of America's legal bill related to mortgage issues is approaching \$70 billion. As part of the most recent settlement, the bank has

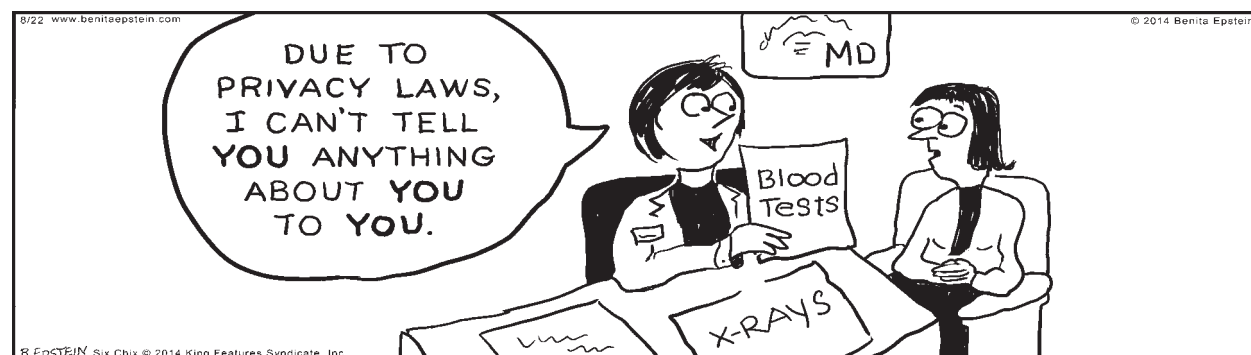
agreed to write down the balances of mortgages of struggling homeowners and also pay to demolish foreclosed properties contributing to blight in certain cities. "We believe this settlement, which resolves significant remaining mortgage-related exposures, is in the best interests of our shareholders, and allows us to continue to focus on the future," Bank of America's chief executive, Brian T. Moynihan, said in a statement. The \$16.65 billion settlement is the culmination

of that reckoning that has been years in the making. Across the country, multiple U.S. attorney offices have mounted investigations into Countrywide and Merrill Lynch, the investment firm that Bank of America bought in the financial crisis. Bank of America's lawyers argued that should not be overly punished for the suspected misdeeds of Countrywide and particularly Merrill, which it felt pressured by regulators to acquire in the depths of the financial crisis. □

Mutts



6 Chix



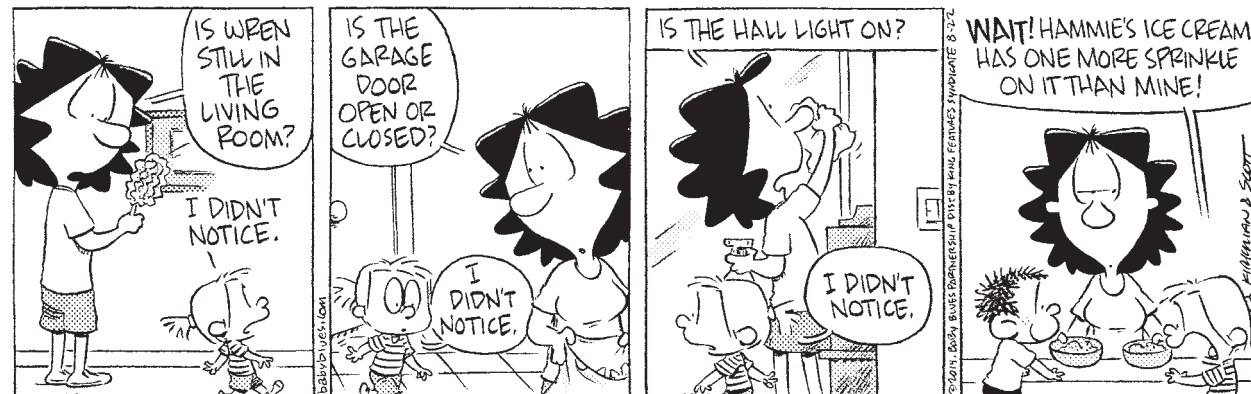
Blondie



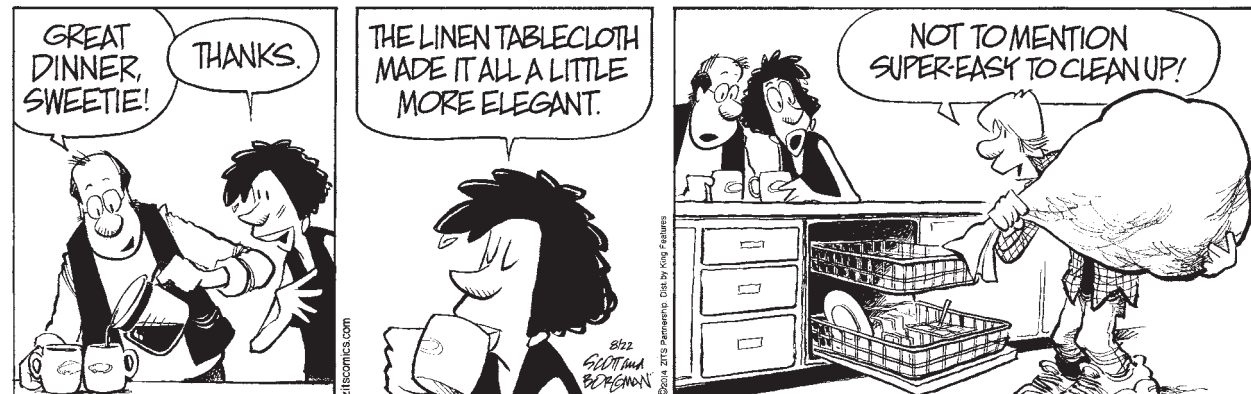
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

5			8	1	2		3
	1			3			9
2							
9				4			5
	4					3	
7			6				1
							7
	8			2		1	
3		5	7		8		6

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

8/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

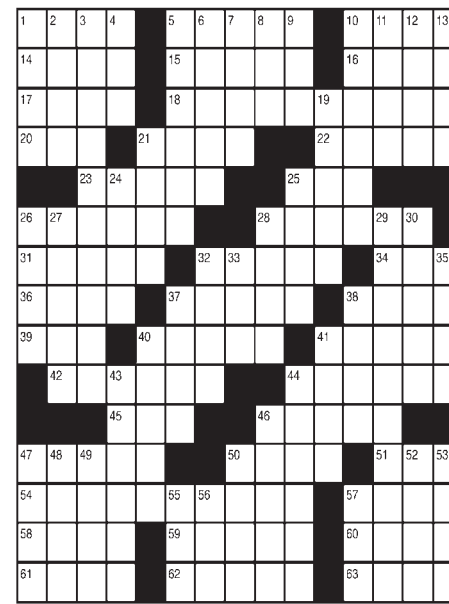
1	8	5	9	4	7	6	2	3
2	9	3	1	6	8	4	7	5
4	6	7	3	5	2	9	8	1
5	3	8	7	9	6	1	4	2
7	4	9	2	1	5	8	3	6
6	1	2	4	8	3	7	5	9
9	7	4	5	2	1	3	6	8
8	2	1	6	3	4	5	9	7
3	5	6	8	7	9	2	1	4

ACROSS

- Arrestee's hope
- Bush
- Snatch
- Twiddling one's thumbs
- Self-confidence
- Cartoonist Goldberg
- Evans or Robertson
- Beyond what can be tolerated
- Huge bird that cannot fly
- Small bills
- Actor Buddy
- Way; our galaxy
- Companion
- Expensive
- Friendliest
- Pig noises
- Not smooth
- Crow's comment
- Drama
- Hospital rooms with many beds
- Israeli dance
- up; arrange
- Name on a check
- British noble
- Scattered wreckage
- Take out
- Feel miserable
- Chocolate substitute
- Overcook milk
- Yearn
- Sturdy wood
- Gathering
- Cooking herb
- High point
- Unrestrained spree
- on; victimize
- Ship's pole
- Piece of asparagus
- Finds a total

DOWN

- one's time; wait
- Eden resident
- Light up
- Actor Marvin
- High-spirited
- As sweet as
- BBQ favorites
- up; spend
- Actress Arthur
- Star of the film "Pin Up Girl"
- Massages
- Up to the task
- "there, done that"
- Get through to
- Bullfight shouts
- Unpleasant
- out; gorges
- Bursts
- Made angry
- Naked
- Placard listing both teams' point totals
- Fortune-teller's deck of cards
- Sunbeams
- Miner's find
- Diminish
- Cry loudly



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/22/14

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

SOSO	ABACK	MUMS
OVER	DEBRA	ATOP
READ	INCUR	RARE
ENRAGED	SMASHED	
	IOU	STASH
MEANT	HIS	KABUL
ODDS	HEM	FELINE
ADD	REWIRE	DDE
NIECES	LOB	PEER
SERUM	DAD	HENRY
	RIDER	PEA
SPARTAN	MARCHER	
TOGA	LILAC	HIRE
OPEN	ERASE	EGGS
PEST	SOPHS	SHOT

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8/22/14

- Saint topper
- Haughtiness
- Titanic's doom
- Nureyev's dance form
- Out of; safe
- Latin-American line dance
- Con game
- Imogene
- Charitable gift
- Out of; misbehaving
- Elderly
- Door openers
- Big TV network
- over; topple
- Mineral spring

United lures top fliers with gourmet meals

SCOTT MAYEROWITZ
AP Airlines Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — To win the hearts of frequent business travelers, United Airlines is going through their stomachs. The carrier has been looking for ways to woo back some of its top fliers who

miles. That means United will offer full meals on more short flights than its competitors, although each airline makes exceptions for some key shorter business routes like the 731-mile trip between New York and Chicago.



This product image provided by United Airlines shows a Strawberry Fields Salad, one of a variety of the airline's new first class food options. The Chicago-based airline on Thursday, Aug. 21, 2014 announced that it's upgrading first class food options and replacing snacks with full meals on some of its shortest flights.

(AP Photo/United Airlines)

defected to other carriers following a rocky merger with Continental Airlines. So, it's upgrading first class food options and replacing snacks with full meals on some of its shortest flights. The changes, announced Thursday, mean that instead of potato chips, chocolate chip cookies and bananas, passengers on flights of at least 800 miles will get meals such as chicken and mozzarella on a tomato focaccia roll and turkey and Swiss cheese on a cranberry baguette. Currently, meals are only served on flights of 900 miles or more — trips that usually last close to two hours.

Passengers on 106 extra daily flights — spread out over 13 routes, such as Houston-to-Des Moines, Iowa — will be getting full meal service starting in February. The move comes as American Airlines goes the other way, eliminating hot meals on most flights less than 1,000 miles starting Sept. 1. The change — which upset many frequent fliers — is part of American's merger with US Airways and does expand meals to some US Airways flights that previously only had snacks. Delta Air Lines serves first class meals on flights of more than 900

fall, it will add Prosecco sparkling wine to its beverage menu. "Customers shouldn't have to make sacrifices just because they are onboard an aircraft," says Todd Traynor-Corey, the airline's managing director of food design. That might be true, but in an industry known for its razor-thin profit margins, food has always been a target of cost-cutting. With U.S. airlines each year carrying 645 million passengers domestically, every little food decision had big implications. In the 1980s, then American Airlines CEO Robert Crandall famously decided to remove a single olive from every salad. The thought was: passengers wouldn't notice and American would save \$40,000 a year. It's been a decade since most airlines stopped serving free meals in coach on domestic flights. Dennis Cary, an airline consultant with ICF International, says meals alone won't drive passengers to one airline over another, but can help leave a better impression of a flight. □

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August 25

Monarch



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Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor

pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties

Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

Less shake from artificial quakes, U.S. study says

SETH BORENSTEIN

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Man-made earthquakes, a side effect of some high-tech energy drilling, cause less shaking and in general are about 16 times weaker than natural earthquakes with the same magnitude, a new U.S. study found.

People feeling the ground move from induced quakes — those that are not natural, but triggered by injections of wastewater deep underground — report significantly less shaking than those who experience more normal earthquakes of the same magnitude, according to a study by U.S. Geological Survey geophysicist Susan Hough. Distance matters in this shaking gap, however. For people within 6 miles (10 kilometers) of the fault, artificial and natural quakes feel pretty much the same, she said. Hough studied similar-sized man-made and natural quakes in the central and eastern United States from 2011 to 2013, comparing the reported magnitude to what people said they felt in the USGS electronic "Did You Feel It" survey. She found that while two different types of temblors may have had the same magnitude as measured by seismographs, they had distinct differences in what people said they felt.

The way artificial quakes felt was equivalent on average to a natural quake that had a magnitude 0.8 smaller. So a 4.8 induced quake felt like a 4.0 quake, Hough said. The magnitude scale used by USGS and others is mathematically complex, but a drop



This Nov. 6, 2011 file photo shows earthquake damage in Sparks, Okla. on Sunday, Nov. 6, 2011 after two earthquakes hit the area in less than 24 hours.

Associated Press

in 0.8 magnitude translates to about 16 times less strength or energy released.

Sometimes the difference is even bigger. Hough said a 5.3 August 2011 man-made quake in Trinidad, Colorado, actually felt like a 4.0 quake, which is about 90 times weaker, based on the thousands of responses in the "Did You Feel It" survey system. The study, published Monday in the Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America, looked at quakes in Oklahoma, Colorado, Arkansas, Texas and Ohio. It included a 5.7 quake in Prague, Oklahoma, in November 2011 that injured two people and damaged 14 houses, which Hough said felt like 5.1 magnitude natural quake.

"The hazard of these earthquakes is lower than what you'd expect," Hough said. "It's not that there's no hazard, it's just that it's a

little better than you might think."

Man-made earthquakes have become a big concern recently as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, and other drilling injects waste-

water deep underground. Scientists say that sometimes triggers shifts along existing and previously unknown faults. Oklahoma has had more than 300 earthquakes of magnitude

3 or more — strong enough to feel locally but too weak to cause damage — since Jan. 1. Before 2007, Oklahoma averaged only one quake a year of that size.

The artificial quakes may have less energy — only after 6 miles (10 kilometers) away — because the fault is lubricated by the injected wastewater, making it easier to slip and do so more smoothly in less of a herky-jerky motion, Hough theorized. Also these faults can be slipping with less pent-up energy than they would have if they slipped naturally years later.

But induced quakes are shallow, which means the shaking has to travel less distance to buildings nearby, said seismologist Steve Horton of the University of Memphis, who wasn't part of the study. He and others said Hough's study made sense and could change how researchers look at quake intensity. □

Report: U.S. scientist kept quiet about flu blunder



In this Oct. 8, 2013, file photo, a sign marks the entrance to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

Associated Press

MIKE STOBBE

AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A U.S. government scientist kept silent about a potentially dangerous lab blunder and revealed it only after workers in another lab noticed something fishy, according to an internal investigation. The accident happened in January at the headquarters of the U.S. Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

A lab scientist accidentally mixed a deadly strain of bird flu with a tamer strain, and sent the mix to another CDC lab and to an outside lab in Athens, Georgia. No one was sickened by bird flu. But unsuspecting scientists worked with the viral mix for months before it was discovered.

CDC officials have called the incident the most worrisome in a series of lab safety problems at the government agency,

long regarded as one of the most respected public health agencies in the world.

Earlier this summer, a lab mishandled anthrax samples and both the bird flu and anthrax labs were shut down.

"We all feel horrible this happened," said Dr. Anne Schuchat, who oversees the CDC's Influenza Division — which includes the lab where the bird flu accident took place.

Because of employee privacy rules, she said she could not name the lab scientist or the leader of the scientist's team, who were both faulted in the investigation report released Friday. She said disciplinary actions are taking place, but she did not provide any details. □



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Emmy hopefuls play the angles to nab trophies

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — If it walks like a drama and talks like a drama and yet calls itself a comedy, that's just fine with the Emmy Awards.

But the audience for Monday's ceremony (8 p.m. EDT, NBC) may suffer momentary confusion when, say, the Netflix women's prison saga "Orange Is the New Black" pops up as a nominee for best comedy series.

While the Emmys have included category-busters before, the 66th prime-time contest is an especially freewheeling one.

"The Emmys are being loosey-goosey about category placement," said Tom O'Neil, author of "The Emmys" reference book and organizer of the Gold Derby awards website.

Such flexibility isn't unusual when it comes to TV awards in Britain, where category definitions are less stringent and series formats are more fluid than in the United States, said Gareth Neame, the U.K. executive producer of PBS'

Emmy-winning "Downton Abbey," a nominee once more.

"My view is all these producers, studios and (networks) are just giving their best shot to try to get their shows nominated, and what producer wouldn't do that?" Neame said.

The tactic isn't frivolous. Shows are angling to better their odds of winning TV's top honor, which can bring not only prestige but also possibly more viewers — and attention that may usher in more viewers is what niche shows such as "Orange the New Black" crave.

Emmy bragging rights are another matter. With the explosion of acclaimed cable and online content, traditional broadcast networks are finding themselves shut out or lightly represented in the major categories including best drama and comedy series. Network stars are being elbowed aside, too.

NBC late-night host and ceremony host Seth Meyers is ready to take advantage of broadcasting's plight.

"That's a thing that I think everyone in the audience



This image released by HBO shows Matthew McConaughey, left, and Woody Harrelson from the HBO series "True Detective." Both Harrelson and McConaughey were nominated for Emmy Awards for best actor in a drama series for their roles in the series. The 66th Primetime Emmy Awards will be presented Aug. 25 at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

will be aware of, and being someone who's on a broadcast network makes it a lot more fun to make jokes about than if I were someone on the cable side lording it over everyone," he said, chuckling.

The decision by "Orange" to compete as a comedy despite its bleak setting puts

pressure on four-time best-comedy winner "Modern Family." The ABC series — vying for a record-tying fifth win (with "Frasier") against a buzzy Internet newcomer — may look a lot less modern to Emmy voters.

The Netflix series already flexed its muscle at the creative arts Emmys held a

week ago, when Uzo Aduba was honored as best guest actress in a comedy for her role as prisoner Suzanne "Crazy Eyes" Warren. She is the first online performer to win an Emmy. Another apparent fish-out-of-water: Showtime's dysfunctional family series "Shameless."

Matthew McConaughey to pitch for Lincoln brand



In this June 19, 2014 file photo, Matthew McConaughey arrives at the Critics' Choice Television Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

DETROIT (AP) — Oscar-winning actor Matthew McConaughey is the new spokesman for Ford's luxury Lincoln brand.

Lincoln says McConaughey will appear in a series of TV and digital ads featuring Lincoln's new small SUV, the MKC.

McConaughey has a mul-

tiyear contract with the brand.

The actor says in a statement that he's a longtime admirer of Lincoln. In his 2011 movie "The Lincoln Lawyer," McConaughey stars as an attorney who works out of the back of a 1988 Lincoln Town Car.

U.S. inspector finds Beyonce, Jay-Z Cuba trip legal

HAVANA (AP) — The U.S. Treasury Department's inspector general has determined Jay-Z and Beyonce's fifth-anniversary trip to Cuba last year was legal under rules allowing educational travel to the island.

The music superstars angered several Republican politicians in Florida with their four-day visit to Havana, which saw them eating in some of the city's high-end private restaurants and touring colonial Old Havana while Jay-Z puffed on a Cuban cigar.

Washington's 51-year embargo makes it illegal for U.S. citizens to visit Cuba for mere tourism, although tens of thousands of Americans travel to the island



In this April 4, 2013, file photo, U.S. singer Beyonce poses for photos with school children as she tours Old Havana, Cuba.

Associated Press

each year on academic, religious, journalistic or cultural exchange licenses. The inspector general's office said in a report

Wednesday that the couple visited an art school and a local theater group, helping make their trip a legal educational exchange.



This June 29, 2014 file photo shows singer Stevie Wonder performing at the Calling festival, in London. Wonder, Billy Joel and Garth Brooks are among a list of performers set to receive ASCAP Centennial Awards.

Associated Press

Joel, Wonder, Brooks to receive ASCAP honors

NEW YORK (AP) — Billy Joel, Stevie Wonder and Garth Brooks are among a list of performers set to receive ASCAP Centennial Awards. Joan Baez and Stephen Sondheim will also receive the top honor Nov. 17 at the Waldorf Astoria gala in New York, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers announced Thursday. The event will celebrate ASCAP's 100th anniversary. It's also the first fund-

raiser benefiting the ASCAP Foundation. The five honorees will attend the gala, where other artists will perform in tribute. ASCAP President and Chairman Paul Williams, who recently won Grammy Awards for co-writing Daft Punk's "Random Access Memories," will host the event. Williams says in a statement the honorees have created songs "that have touched the lives of people across the globe." □

Serena the singer? Tennis star does karaoke



Tennis player Serena Williams performs onstage at the Delta Open Mic with Serena Williams event Wednesday, Aug. 20, 2014 in New York.

Associated Press

MESFIN FEKADU

AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Serena Williams replaced her tennis racket with a microphone at a karaoke event a week ahead of the U.S. Open.

The top-ranked athlete performed "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" on Wednesday night at Arena in New York City. She danced and swayed her hips in a mini dress as she sang the song in falsetto and attempted high notes. Williams told the crowd before she began: "I'm really nervous."

She was joined by fellow tennis player Jack Sock, "Orange Is the New Black" stars Laverne Cox and Uzo Aduba, "Glee" actor Dar-

ren Criss and comedian Kathy Griffin at the event for Delta Airlines.

Williams, a karaoke enthusiast, called the singing sport "my favorite thing."

"I do like 80s, 90s rock because it's good for my voice," she said before she performed. "The thing about karaoke is picking a song that works for your voice, that way if you sing like a cat — like I do — you can still sound pretty good."

Williams is seeded No. 1 as she seeks her third straight U.S. Open title. She said winning is "super important," but added that there's "no pressure."

"I feel good. I feel good. I'm looking forward to it," she said. "I am going to be

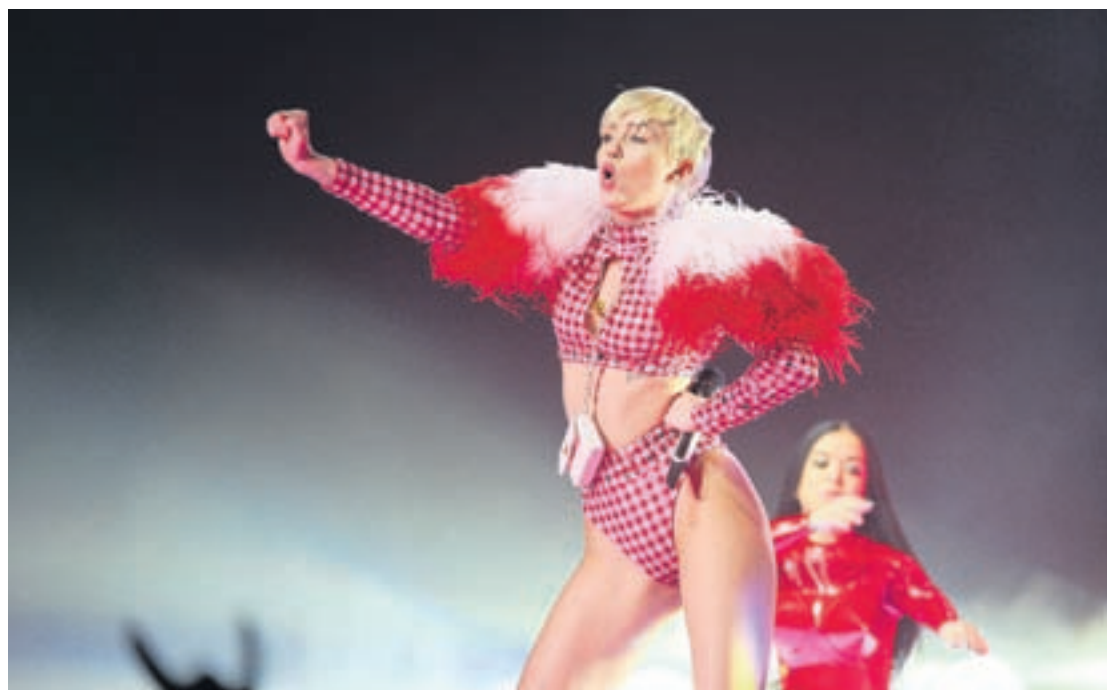
relaxed and enjoy myself." Sock, 21, said he and Williams will play together during next year's Hopman Cup tournament. He sang a lively rendition of R. Kelly's "Ignition."

Aduba, who recently won a Creative Emmy, didn't take the stage, but her co-star Cox drew in the small crowd at the private event with a rendition of Whitney's Houston "One Moment In Time."

"Pease don't put this on YouTube," she said, laughing.

Cox joined Criss and Griffin onstage when they sang "Say My Name" by Destiny's Child.

"Everybody, Beyonce Knowles!" Criss yelled, introducing Griffin. □



In this Saturday, April 5, 2014 file photo, singer Miley Cyrus performs at the Barclays Center in New York.

Associated Press

Dominican Republic bans Miley Cyrus concert for morality

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — The

Dominican Republic government commission that oversees public performances is banning a Sept. 13 concert by Miley Cyrus on morality grounds.

The commission said in a statement Thursday that it took the action because Cyrus often "undertakes acts that go against morals and customs, which are punishable by Dominican law."

Tickets ranging from \$27 to \$370 for the concert in the

capital have been on sale since July.

Some critics have declared Cyrus' onstage antics, including twerking and crotch-grabbing, as vulgar. A representative for Cyrus did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Concert organizers in the Dominican Republic did not comment on the ban.

The commission in the past has banned songs it considers vulgar from the airwaves, including some by Calle 13 of Puerto Rico. □

The Trouble With Tenure



FRANK BRUNL

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DENVER - Mike Johnston's mother was a public-school teacher. So were her mother and father. And his godfather taught in both public and private schools.

So when he expresses the concern that we're not getting the best teachers into classrooms or weeding out the worst performers, it's not as someone who sees the profession from a cold, cynical distance.

What I hear in his voice when he talks about teaching is reverence, along with something else that public education could use more of: optimism.

He rightly calls teachers "the single most transformative force in education."

But the current system doesn't enable as many of them as possible to rise to that role, he says. And a prime culprit is tenure, at least as it still exists in most states. "It provides no incentive for someone to improve their practice," he told me last week. "It provides no accountability to actual student outcomes. It's the classic driver of, 'I taught it, they didn't learn it, not my problem.' It has a decimating impact on morale among staff, because some people can work hard, some can do nothing, and it doesn't matter."

I sat down with Johnston, a Democrat who represents a racially diverse chunk of this city in the state Senate, because he was the leading proponent of a 2010 law that essentially abolished tenure in Colorado. To earn what is now called "non-probationary status," a new teacher must demonstrate student progress three years in a row, and any teacher whose students show no progress for two consecutive years loses his or her job protection.

The law is still being disputed and has not been fully implemented. But since its enactment, a growing number of states have chipped away at traditional tenure or forged stronger links between student performance and teacher evaluations. And the challenges to tenure have gathered considerable force, with many Democrats defying teachers unions and joining the movement.

After a California judge's recent ruling that the state's tenure protections violated the civil rights of children by trapping them with ineffective educators in a manner

that "shocks the conscience," Arne Duncan, the education secretary, praised the decision. Tenure even drew scrutiny from Whoopi Goldberg on the TV talk show "The View." She repeatedly questioned the way it sometimes shielded bad teachers.

"Parents are not going to stand for it anymore," she said. "And you teachers, in your union, you need to say, 'These bad teachers are making us look bad.'"

Johnston spent two years with Teach for America in Mississippi in the late 1990s. Then, after getting a master's in education from Harvard University, he worked for six years as a principal in public schools in the Denver area, including one whose success drew so much attention that President Barack Obama gave a major education speech there during his 2008 presidential campaign. Johnston said that traditional tenure deprived principals of the team-building discretion they needed.

"Do you have people who all share the same vision and are willing to walk through the fire together?" he said. Principals with control over that coax better outcomes from students, he said, citing not only his own experience but also the test scores of kids in the Harlem neighborhood of New York City who attend the Success Academy Charter Schools.

"You saw that when you could hire for talent and release for talent, you could actually demonstrate amazing results in places where that was never thought possible," he said. "Ah, so it's not the kids who are the problem! It's the system."

When job protections are based disproportionately on time served, he said, they don't adequately inspire and motivate. Referring to himself and other tenure critics, he said, "We want a tenure system that actually means something, that's a badge of honor you wear as one of the best practitioners in the field and not just because you're breathing."

There are perils to the current tenure talk: that it fails to address the intense strains on many teachers; that it lays too much fault on their doorsteps, distracting people from other necessary reforms.

But the discussion is imperative, because there's no sense in putting something as crucial as children's education in the hands of a professional class with less accountability than others and with job protections that most Americans can only fantasize about.

We need to pay good teachers much more. We need to wrap the great ones in the highest esteem. But we also need to separate the good and the great from the bad.

Johnston frames it well.

"Our focus is not on teachers because they are the problem," he said. "Our focus is on teachers because they are the solution." □



Ambivalence About America



ROGER COHEN

© 2014 New York Times

Attitudes in Europe toward an America that is regrouping are marked today by extreme ambivalence. Europeans have long been known for finishing their diatribes about the United States by asking how they can get their child into Stanford. These days, European after-dinner conversation tends to be dominated by discussion of the latest episode of "House of Cards" or "Homeland" or "Mad Men." A French diplomat told me that every meeting he attended at the White House during his tour in Washington ended with one of his party asking if it might be possible to see the West Wing. He found it embarrassing.

Europeans complain of the personal data stored or the tax loopholes exploited by the likes of Amazon, Facebook, Starbucks, Google and Twitter, but they are hooked on them all. Google, as recently reported by my colleague Mark Scott, now has an 85 percent share of search in Europe's largest economies, including Germany, Britain and France, whereas its share of the American market is about 67 percent. American tech companies operate seven of the 10 most visited websites in Europe. Rage at the practices of the National Security Agency is outweighed by addiction to a cyberuniverse dominated by American brands.

The magnetism of Silicon Valley may suggest that the United

States, a young nation still, is Rome at the height of its power. American soft power is alive and well. America's capacity for reinvention, its looming self-sufficiency in energy, its good demographics and, not least, its hold on the world's imagination, all suggest vigor.

But geostrategic shifts over the past year indicate the contrary: that the United States is Imperial Rome, A.D. 376, with various violent enemies playing the role of the Visigoths, Huns, Vandals et al.; the loss at home of what Edward Gibbon, the historian of Rome's fall, called "civic virtue," as narrow interests paralyze politics; the partial handover of American security to private military contractors (just as a declining Rome increasingly entrusted its defense to mercenaries); the place of plunder rather than productiveness in the economy; and the apparent powerlessness of a leader given to talk of the limits of what the United States can do. There is no record of the Emperor Valens' saying, as Obama did, "You hit singles, you hit doubles," but perhaps he thought it.

Ambivalence is not peculiar to Europe, of course. To heck with the world's problems, many Americans now say, we have done our share over all these decades of Pax Americana. If China and India are really rising, let them take responsibility for global security, as America took the mantle from Britain in 1945.

Barack Obama - professional, practical and prudent - would appear to suit this American zeitgeist. He may not be managing decline but he is certainly resisting overreach. He is not the decider. He is the restrainer.

Why, then, is Obama's no-stupid-stuff approach to the globe so unpopular? Fifty-eight percent of Americans in a recent New York Times/CBS News poll disapproved of his handling of foreign policy, the highest of his presidency. A strange duality seems to

be at work. Americans want the troops to come home. They want investment to prioritize domestic jobs, education, health care and infrastructure.

Yet many seem to feel Obama is selling the nation short. They want a president to lead, not be a mere conduit for their sentiments. Americans, as citizens of a nation that represents an idea, are optimistic by nature. It may be true that there is no good outcome in Syria, and certainly no easy one. It may be that Egyptian democracy had to be stillborn. It may be that Vladimir Putin annexes Crimea because he can. Still, Americans do not like the message that it makes sense to pull back and let the world do its worst. America's bipolarity sees recent bitter experience vying with the country's innermost nature, its can-do aspiration to be a "city upon a hill."

It is not easy to read this world of bipolarity (both European and American), Jihadi Springs and Chinese assertiveness. It is too simple, and probably wrong, to say that the United States is in decline.

But Pax Americana is in decline. America's readiness to use its power to stabilize the world - the current bombing of the Islamic State group notwithstanding - is fading. For that reason, the world is more dangerous than it has been in a long time. The waning under Obama of the credibility of American power has created a vacuum no magnetic soft power fills.

The pendulum always swings too far. Obama the restrainer has been the great corrective to Bush the decider. Far from the magician imagined back in 2008, Obama has been the professional moderator. But the president has gone too far; and in so doing has undersold the nation, encouraged foes, disappointed allies, and created doubts over American power that have proved easy to exploit. □

Noodles: Friend or Foe? South Koreans Defend Diet

FOSTER KLUG

JUNG-YOON CHOI

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

Kim Min-koo has an easy reply to new American research that hits South Korea where it hurts — in the noodles. Drunk and hungry just after dawn, he rips the lid off a bowl of his beloved fast food, wobbling on his feet but still defiant over a report that links instant noodles to health hazards. “There’s no way any study is going to stop me from eating this,” says Kim, his red face beaded with sweat as he adds hot water to his noodles in a Seoul convenience store. His mouth waters, wooden chopsticks poised above the softening strands, his glasses fogged by steam. At last, he spears a slippery heap, lets forth a mighty, noodle-cooling blast of air and starts slurping.

“This is the best moment — the first bite,” Kim, a freelance film editor who indulges about five times a week, says between gulps. “The taste, the smell, the chewiness — it’s just perfect.”

Instant noodles carry a broke college student aura in America, but they are an essential, even passionate, part of life for many in South Korea and across Asia. Hence the emotional heartburn caused by a Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital study in the United States that linked instant noodles consumption by South Koreans to some risks for heart disease.

The study has provoked feelings of wounded pride, mild guilt, stubborn resistance, even nationalism among South Koreans, who eat more instant noodles per capita than anyone in the world.

Many of those interviewed vowed, like Kim, not to quit. Other noodle lovers offered up techniques they swore kept them healthy: taking Omega-3, adding vegetables, using less seasoning, avoiding the soup. Some dismissed the study because the hospital involved is based in cheeseburger-gobbling America.

The heated reaction is partly explained by the omnipresence here of instant noodles, which, for South Koreans, usually mean the spicy, salty “ramyeon” that costs less than a dollar a package.

sequent hangovers. Some people won’t leave the country without them, worried they’ll have to eat inferior noodles abroad. What could be better at relieving homesickness than a salty shot of ramyeon?

meat, soda and fried and fast foods, including instant noodles, were associated with an increase in abdominal obesity and LDL, or “bad,” cholesterol. Eating instant noodles more than twice a week was

instant ramyeon provides more than 90 percent of South Korea’s recommended daily sodium intake.

Still, it’s tough to expect much nutrition from a meal that costs around 80 cents,



A cook prepares “ramyeon” instant noodles for Han Seung-youn, left, during an interview at a ramyeon restaurant in Seoul, South Korea. Instant noodles are an essential, even passionate, part of life for many in South Korea and other Asian countries. Hence the emotional heartburn caused by a Baylor Heart and Vascular Hospital study in the United States that found excessive consumption of instant noodles by South Koreans was associated with risks for diabetes, heart disease or stroke.

(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

Individually-wrapped disposable bowls and cups are everywhere: Internet cafes, libraries, trains, ice-skating rinks. Even at the halfway point of a trail snaking up South Korea’s highest mountain, hikers can refresh themselves with cup noodles.

Elderly South Koreans often feel deep nostalgia for instant noodles, which entered the local market in the 1960s as the country began clawing its way out of the poverty and destruction of the Korean War into what’s now Asia’s fourth-biggest economy. Many vividly remember their first taste of the once-exotic treat, and hard-drinking South Koreans consider instant noodles an ideal remedy for aching, alcohol-laden bellies and sub-

eon?

“Ramyon is like kimchi to Koreans,” says Ko Dong-ryun, 36, an engineer from Seoul, referring to the spicy, fermented vegetable dish that graces most Korean meals. “The smell and taste create an instant sense of home.”

Ko fills half his luggage with instant noodles for his international business travels, a lesson he learned after assuming on his first trip that three packages would suffice for six days.

“Man, was I wrong. Since then, I always make sure I pack enough.”

The U.S. study was based on South Korean surveys from 2007-2009 of more than 10,700 adults aged 19-64, about half of them women. It found that people who ate a diet rich in

associated with a higher prevalence of metabolic syndrome, another heart risk factor, in women but not in men.

The study raises important questions, but can’t prove that instant noodles are to blame rather than the overall diets of people who eat lots of them, cautions Alice Lichtenstein, director of the cardiovascular nutrition lab at Tufts University in Boston.

“What’s jumping out is the sodium (intake) is higher in those who are consuming ramen noodles,” she says. “What we don’t know is whether it’s coming from the ramen noodles or what they are consuming with the ramen noodles.”

There’s certainly a lot of sodium in those little cups. A serving of the top-selling

says Choi Yong-min, 44, marketing director for Paldo, a South Korean food company. “I can’t say it’s good for your health, but it is produced safely.”

By value, instant noodles were the top-selling manufactured food in South Korea in 2012, the most recent year figures are available, with about 1.85 trillion won (\$1.8 billion) worth sold, according to South Korea’s Ministry of Food and Drug Safety.

China is the world’s largest instant noodle market, according to the World Instant Noodles Association, although its per capita consumption pales next to South Korea’s. The food is often a low-end option for Chinese people short of money, time or cooking facilities. □